# DISAGREEMENT STRATEGIES IN THE 2020 UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL DEBATES

# **THESIS**



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#### ABSTRACT

Izah, N. (2021). Disagreement Strategies in the 2020 United States Presidential Debates. English Department, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Prof. Dr. Hj. Zuliati Rohmah, M.Pd.

Keywords: disagreeing strategies, 2020 United States presidential debates, power.

In communicating, we cannot prevent disagreement when we have an idea or opinion that is different from the other person we are talking to. Therefore, we need a specific strategy to convey disagreements appropriately to make good communication. The purpose of this study was to analyze the disagreeing strategies used by the presidential candidates in the 2020 United States presidential debates. The presidential candidates are Donald Trump and Joe Biden. In this study, there are two research problems; (1) what are the types of disagreeing strategies used by the two presidential candidates, and (2) what are the similarities and differences between the two presidential candidates in applying disagreeing strategies.

This study used the theory of Muntigl and Turnbull (1998). This study used descriptive qualitative methods in collecting data, classifying data, and analyzing data. The data from this study are the transcripts in the form of words, phrases, and sentences obtained from the videos of the 2020 United States presidential debates. The transcripts from the debate videos were analyzed by identifying the type of disagreeing strategies used by the presidential candidates. The researcher herself was the only instrument in this study. The data collection was carried out by reading and selecting all the video scripts from the 2020 United States presidential debates. Then, the procedures of data analysis contain identifying, classifying, and analyzing the data. The final step is to draw the conclusions of the results of the study.

The results of this study indicate that there are ten types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump with a total of 101 utterances, and there are seven types of disagreeing strategies used by Joe Biden with a total of 101 utterances. There are combinations of types of disagreeing strategies found in this study; (1) challenge followed by contradiction, and (2) counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. Furthermore, there are two similarities and one difference between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreement. The two presidential candidates have different in the use of the type of challenge. The results show that the two candidates who have the same power level tend to use the type of contradiction in showing their disagreement.

#### **ABSTRAK**

Izah, N. (2021). Strategi Ketidaksetujuan di Debat Presiden Amerika Serikat tahun 2020. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: Prof. Dr. Hj. Zuliati Rohmah, M.Pd.

Kata Kunci: strategi ketidaksetujuan, debat presiden Amerika Serikat tahun 2020, kekuatan.

Di dalam berkomunikasi, kita tidak dapat mencegah adanya ketidaksetujuan ketika kita mempunyai ide atau opini yang berbeda dari lawan bicara kita. Maka dari itu, kita membutuhkan strategi tertentu untuk menyampaikan ketidaksetujuan dengan tepat supaya bisa membuat komunikasi yang baik. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menganalisis strategi ketidaksetujuan yang digunakan oleh kandidat presiden di debat presiden Amerika Serikat tahun 2020. Kandidat presiden nya adalah Donald Trump dan Joe Biden. Di penelitian ini, terdapat dua masalah penelitian, (1) apa tipe strategi ketidaksetujuan yang digunakan oleh kedua kandidat presiden, dan (2) apa persamaan dan perbedaan antara kedua kandidat presiden dalam menerapkan strategi ketidaksetujuan.

Penelitian ini menggunakan teori dari Muntigl dan Turnbull (1998). Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif deskriptif dalam mengumpulkan data, mengklasifikasikan data, dan menganalisis data. Data dari penelitian ini adalah transkrip yang berupa kata kata, frasa dan kalimat yang didapat dari video debat presiden Amerika Serikat tahun 2020. Transkip dari debat video di analisa dengan mengidentifikasi tipe strategi ketidaksetujuan yang digunakan oleh kandidat presiden. Peneliti sendiri menjadi satu-satunya instrumen pada penelitian ini. Pengumpulan data dilakukan dengan membaca dan memilih seluruh naskah video debat presiden Amerika Serikat tahun 2020. Kemudian, prosedur analisis data berisi tentang mengidentifikasi, mengelompokkan, dan menganalisis data. Langkah terakhir adalah menarik kesimpulan dari hasil penelitian.

Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan adanya 10 tipe strategi ketidaksetujuan yang digunakan oleh Donald Trump dengan total 101 ucapan dan ada 7 tipe strategi ketidaksetujuan yang digunakan oleh Joe Biden dengan total 101 ucapan. Terdapat kombinasi jenis strategi ketidaksetujuan yang ditemukan dalam penelitian ini; (1) tatangan di ikuti oleh kontradiksi, dan (2) tuntutan balasan di ikuti oleh tantangan dan kontradiksi. Selanjutnya, ada dua kesamaan dan satu perbedaan antara Donald Trump dan Joe Biden dalam menerapkan ketidaksetujuan. Kedua kandidat presiden memiliki perbedaan dalam penggunaan tipe tantangan. Hasilnya menunjukkan bahwa kedua kandidat presiden yang memiliki tingkat kekuatan yang sama cenderung menggunakan tipe kontradiksi dalam menunjukkan ketidaksetujuan.

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#### **CHAPTER I**

#### INTRODUCTION

In this chapter, the researcher provides an introduction that consists of the background of the study, research problems, the significance of the study, scope and limitation, and definition of key terms.

#### 1.1 Background of Study

Communication is an activity that is always done by humans in everyday life. By communicating, we can find out someone's opinion, response, or reaction to something. In communication, there will be a disagreement expressed by the speaker. According to Koczogh (2012, p. 234), disagreement is one of the most common speech events that occur in daily interactions. Disagreement does not involve what people explicitly believe or think about something, but rather what they want to do (Cohnitz & Marques, 2014). Expression of disagreement is used when people have ideas or opinions, arguments, or views that are different from others (Ramadhani, 2012, p. 36).

In expressing a disagreement, a strategy will be needed. Disagreement strategies are very necessary when someone expresses their opinions about something different from the opinions of others and also to avoid any disputes that might occur. However sometimes, the speaker does not use a disagreement strategy when they are arguing with their interlocutors, and they choose to be silent or use specific strategies, such as agreement and avoidance (Chen, 2006). This is done to avoid conflict with the speaker. The reason is related to certain

aspects, such as the topics discussed are not necessary, respect, the context that is not appropriate, social relations, and social status.

Numerous studies to date have examined disagreement strategies. The previous studies have been carried out using various data sources and also have a different focus. Previous studies that use film as a data source, such as a study by Panić-Kavgić (2013) focused on the dominant pattern of comments and answers in dialogue choices from American and Serbian films. The studies by Arofa (2015), Suroiya (2017), and Hibatullah (2019) focused on verbal disagreement used by the characters in the film. Arofa (2015) analyzed *Meet The Focker* movie by using a male character named Greg Focker as the subject. Hibatullah (2019) analyzed *To All The Boys I Have Loved Before* movie by using a female character named Lara Jean as the subject. Meanwhile, Suroiya (2017) analyzed *Detective Conan* movie series by using male and female villains as the subjects.

Other previous studies use data sources in the form of Asian learners (Bavarsad, Eslami-Rasekh, & Simin, 2015; Farashaiyan & Muthusamy, 2016; Kumandhang, 2015; Ramadhani, 2012; Rohmah, 2012), European learners (Koczogh, 2012), native and non-native speakers of English (Aini, 2015; Sadrameli & Haghverdi, 2016; Sofwan & Suwignyo, 2011). The studies by Sofwan & Suwignyo (2011) and Aini (2015) focused on realizing disagreement strategies. Ramadhani (2012) and Sadrameli & Haghverdi (2016) focused on similarities and differences in expressing disagreement strategies. Rohmah (2012) focused on acknowledging peers during disagreements. Kumandhang (2015) focused on the disagreement strategies used by EFL learners on social media.

Farashaiyan & Muthusamy (2016) focused on the descriptive analysis of disagreement strategies.

The studies by Heidari, Eslami-Rasekh, & Simin (2015) and Rohmah (2015) analyzed the politeness strategies of expressing disagreement. Heidari et al. (2015) analyzed politeness strategies in disagreements applied by students at the University of Isfahan and Najafabad who are native speakers of Persian. In their study, they compared the politeness strategies used by male and female students when they expressed disagreement. The results show that male and female respondents alike tried to apply appropriate politeness strategies when they expressed disagreements. However, female respondents are more cautious and tend to be less assertive and more indirect. Rohmah (2012) analyzed the politeness strategies in expressing disagreements and responses to the disagreements applied by the doctorate English Program students from various parts of Indonesia in discussions. The results show that the politeness strategies used by students are still influenced by the cultural values that exist in a collectivist society.

Other previous studies focused on gender and power (Bavarsad et al. 2015; Koczogh, 2012). Koczogh (2012) analyzed gender roles in the disagreement strategies used by Hungarian undergraduate students. He identified disagreement strategies based on previous research on gender and disagreement. The result of his study showed a difference from the result of the previous research studies he used. The result showed that women were more likely to express disagreement, while men were less likely to express disagreement.

Meanwhile, the result of the study by Bavarsad et al. (2015) showed that although men and women are concerned about the status of the power of the interlocutor and employ appropriate strategy when expressing disagreement, women are more careful in using disagreement strategies than men. From the results of the two studies, there are two different results related to gender in expressing disagreement strategies. The result of the study by Koczogh (2012) showed that women are more likely to express disagreement than men. In contrast, the result of the study by Bavarsad et al. (2015) showed that women are more careful in using disagreement strategies than men.

The disagreement theory of Locher (2004) and Muntigl and Turnbull (1998) has differences in dividing each type of disagreement strategy. According to Locher (2004), there are eight strategies to express disagreement; modal auxiliaries, giving personal or emotional reasons for disagreeing, objections in the form of a question, the use of hedges, shifting responsibility, repetition of an utterance by the speaker, the use of but and non-mitigating disagreement strategies. Meanwhile, according to Muntigl and Turnbull (1998), there are five types of disagreement strategies, which consist of; irrelevancy claim, challenge, counterclaim, contradiction, and contradiction followed by counterclaim.

Muntigl and Turnbull's (1998) theory has an advantage over Locher's (2004) theory. Muntigl and Turnbull (1998) determine the order of types of disagreement strategies from the most to the least face-threatening disagreement; irrelevancy claim, challenge, contradiction, counterclaim. Given the order in which the types of disagreement strategies are most face-threatening, it can

influence the study results. The researcher can sort and conclude the research results based on the order of types of disagreement strategies that most face-threatening from Muntigl and Turnbull's (1998) theory.

The studies by Fresiska (2017), Herdiana (2018), and Mulyani (2011) used data sources in the form of debate. Fresiska (2017) analyzed disagreement strategies by American politicians in the presidential debate. Herdiana (2018) analyzed disagreement strategies in the Australian parliamentary debate. Mulyani (2011) analyzed disagreement strategies in the 2012 United States presidential debate. Fresiska (2017), Herdiana (2018), and Mulyani (2011) used the disagreement theory of Locher (2004). Meanwhile, in the present study, the researcher used the theory of disagreeing strategies of Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998).

Many studies of disagreement strategies (Aini, 2015; Bavarsad et al. 2015; Farashaiyan & Muthusamy, 2016; Heidari et al. 2015; Hibatullah, 2019; Sadrameli & Haghverdi, 2016; Sofwan & Suwignyo, 2011; Suroiya, 2017; Tifani, 2015) used the disagreement theory from Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998). From these research studies, none of them used data sources in the form of debate. Thus, to the best of my knowledge, this study is the first study that analyzed disagreement strategies in a debate using the disagreement theory of Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998).

From the previous studies above, the researcher concluded that the majority of the data sources used came from films, debates, learners, native and non-native speakers of English, and also they had a different focus. Despite the previous studies dealing with disagreement strategies by using several different data sources and theories, to the best of my knowledge, none has been done by putting a debate as the data source by using the disagreement theory from Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998). Hence, the researcher analyzed disagreeing strategies used by presidential candidates in the 2020 United States presidential debates.

Debate is an argumentation activity between two or more people, where they express arguments, opinions, or ideas about a topic or problem being discussed. According to Freeley and Steinberg (2008, p.19), a debate can be classified into two categories: academic debate and applied debate. Applied debate may be classified as debates into three types: judicial debate, particular debate, parliamentary debate, or nonformal debate (Freeley & Steinberg, 2008, p. 20). The presidential debate is one of the particular debates because the rules used in the presidential debate have been specially designed. Presidential debates are usually held in democratic countries. There are several democratic countries such as Indonesia, America, and others.

2020 United States presidential debates are a series of debates held for presidential elections. Presidential candidates who took part in these debates are Donald Trump from the Republican Party and Joe Biden from the Democratic Party. They both meet the criteria to be included in the presidential debate. This presidential debate is divided into three parts. The first debate was held on September 29, 2020. The second debate was initially scheduled to be held on October 15, 2020, but it was canceled because Donald Trump tested positive for

Covid-19. Initially, the debate was set to be held in a virtual format, but Donald Trump refused it so that the 2020 United States presidential debates only held two debates. The last debate was held on October 22, 2020. All debates took place around 9 pm to 10:30 pm EDT.

The researcher chose to study disagreement strategies because this often happens in daily life. When someone has a difference in opinion, then they also express their disagreement, and a strategy is needed. Therefore, a study on the disagreement strategy is very important, because by using it, someone can protect their opinions. The researcher analyzed the disagreement strategies in the 2020 United States presidential debates because it can provide overviews of how the presidential candidates defend themselves by uttering disagreements when someone makes accusations or claims against themselves and also it could help determine the differences and similarities of opinion expressed by presidential candidates related to the topic being discussed in the debate. By knowing the differences and similarities between presidential candidates in applying disagreement strategies, people can understand the topic being discussed and the ideas expressed by the presidential candidates.

This research aims to explore the types of disagreeing strategies and to find the differences and similarities between Donald Trump and Joe Biden when they express disagreeing strategies. The researcher analyzed this research by using a theory of disagreeing strategies of Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998).

#### 1.2 Problems of the Study

Related to the explanation of the background of the study, the formulation of the research problems are:

- 1. What are the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debate?
- 2. What are the similarities and the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the disagreeing strategies?

#### 1.3 Significance of the Study

The researcher expects that this study can be useful to add knowledge and information about disagreement strategies. This research can make the reader understand the use of disagreement strategies. Therefore, the significance of this research is to provide a more in-depth explanation of the types of disagreeing strategies that occurs in the debate and to find out the differences and similarities that are used by presidential candidates when expressing their disagreement.

Besides, the researcher hopes this research can be a source or a reference to the next researcher who analyzes the same problems with this research.

# 1.4 Scope and Limitation

The scope of this study is the researcher analyzed the disagreement strategies used by presidential candidates in the 2020 United States presidential debates. The researcher used the theory of disagreeing strategies of Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998). The limitation of this study is only using data in the form of utterances spoken by presidential candidates, they are Donald Trump and Joe

Biden. The utterances spoken by the moderator in the debate were not used by the researcher.

# 1.5 Definition of Key Terms

- a. Disagreement is an activity that occurs in a conversation carried out by someone to show differences in opinions or ideas.
- Strategy is a plan used to achieve goals or successes related to something being discussed
- c. **Debate** is an argumentation activity between two or more parties that are individual or group discussing and deciding problems.

#### **CHAPTER II**

#### **REVIEW OF LITERATURE**

This chapter provides a review of the literature. The researcher explains the theory used in the study. This outline explains disagreement, types of disagreeing strategies, and an explanation of the United States presidential debate.

#### 2.1 Disagreement Strategies

In daily communication, people can not ignore that sometimes there is disagreement expressed by one person to another in a discussion. Expressions of disagreement are used when people have different ideas or opinions about the arguments, opinions, or views of other speakers, and their interlocutors may agree or disagree with them (Ramadani, 2012, p. 35). Since the use of disagreement is quite risky, speakers tend to use disagreements in various strategies. A strategy is needed to make someone's opinion acceptable or to make it in line with the opinions of other persons. Expressing disagreement sometimes can trigger chaos between communicants (Sofwan & Suwignyo, 2011, p. 42). This happens because each party wants to protect their opinions and deny the opinions of others. The use of disagreement in a discussion can cause conflict between the speaker and the interlocutor. To prevent a conflict that occurs when opposing opinions, it is necessary to use the right strategy to show disagreement. By minimizing conflict, the speaker and the interlocutor will maintain good social relations.

Disagreement is considered an unfavorable speech act (Leech, 2007), but some researchers believe that disagreement is a fundamental component of daily interactions (Kozcogh, 2013; Sifianou, 2012) and that it is necessary to make decisions and to solve problems (Angouri & Locher, 2012). Due to the complexity of the views, it is interesting to study the disagreement strategies used by speakers to convey their true intentions, especially disagreement performed by native

speakers of English.

2.1.1 Types of Disagreeing Strategies

According to Muntigl and Turnbull (1998), there are five types of

disagreement strategies used to identify sentences of disagreement: irrelevancy

claim, challenge, counterclaim, contradiction, and contradiction followed by

counterclaim.

2.1.1.1 Irrelevancy Claim

This type has a function where the speaker questions or refutes opinions or

claims raised by the interlocutor. This type of disagreement indicates no

correlation between the previous claim and the topic being discussed (Muntigl &

Turnbull, 1998, p. 229). This type has a function where the speaker confirms that

the claims of the speaker are irrelevant.

Example:

Jane: This is all Melody's fault.

Clara: Why do you blame Melody? Melody has nothing to do with this

at all

In the example above, Clara's statement is included in the type of

irrelevancy claim. Clara said that Jane shouldn't blame Melody because Melody

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has absolutely nothing to do with all of this. This indicates that Jane's claims are completely irrelevant to what they are discussing.

# 2.1.1.2 Challenge

Challenge has a function where the speaker asks questions about claims made by the other person. This is useful to show that the interlocutor's claim is still not right, and also, by using this strategy, the speaker implies that the interlocutor cannot provide proof of his/her claim. Questions asked usually include *who*, *what*, *when*, *how*, *why*, and others. By asking questions about the other person's opinions or claims, the speaker indirectly asks for evidence. This type of strategy implies that the interlocutor cannot provide evidence for her/his claim (Muntigl & Turnbull, 1998, p. 230).

#### Example:

Jane: I hate to be a spoilsport, but I do not see any Diamond Castle.

Clara: I believe it is here.

Jane: How can you believe what you do not see? It is not here

In the example above, Jane said that she does not see Diamond Castle. Clara responds that she believes the Diamond Castle is there. Then Jane questions Clara's claim by saying "How can you believe what you do not see?." Jane's question is included in the type of challenge. Because she questions Clara's claim, which indicates that Jane disagrees with Clara.

#### 2.1.1.3 Contradiction

Contradiction has a function where the speaker shows disagreement by opposing the claims of the interlocutors directly. This shows that the speaker

expressed his/her disagreement directly by showing that the claims expressed by the interlocutor were wrong or unacceptable. This type usually starts with negation or opposition markers like *no*, *I do not agree*, *not at all*, *I do not think so*, etc. (Aini, 2015, p. 240).

Example:

Jane: We have to keep going

Clara: It will be dark soon. We need to camp for the night.

Jane: We only have one more day. I am not stopping.

In the example above, Jane's statement shows the type of contradiction.

This can be seen due to the use of negative particles in the form of 'not.' Jane expresses her disagreeing directly to Clara, by saying that she won't stop.

#### 2.1.1.4 Counterclaim

Counterclaim has a function where the speaker expresses his/her disagreement by filing a counter lawsuit to the interlocutor. The speaker expresses his/her opinion or claim about a problem and gives reasons why he/she did not approve it so that there will be a negotiation of the previous claim by opening the topic being discussed (Muntigl & Turnbull, 1998, p. 244). This type is considered a polite disagreement strategy because the speaker can express his/her disagreement and respond to the interlocutor's claims.

Example:

Jane: Forgive me. Your mother and I cannot continue worrying about you.

Our job is to keep you safe.

Clara: I know you guys are worried about me, but that does not mean I will always stay at home.

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In the example above, the type of counterclaim is found in Clara's statement. Jane reveals that she and Clara's mother have to make sure that Clara will always be safe. Then Clara replied that she knew that they were really worried about her, but that didn't mean she should always stay at home. Clara's statement is included the type of counterclaim.

## 2.1.1.5 Contradiction followed by Counterclaim

This type has a function where the speaker shows his/her disagreement by using a type that begins with Contradiction then followed by Counterclaim.

According to Muntigl and Turnbull (1998, p. 236), the speaker makes a counter lawsuit, which gives a reason why he/she disagrees with interlocutors.

# Example:

Jane: A wand of light has the most powerful magic of all. Even more powerful than Wenlock's.

Clara: <u>It is just an old fairy tale. That is no wand of light. You know</u> why? Because it does not exist.

In the example above, Jane said that the wand of light is the most powerful magic wand. Clara responded that the wand of light was just a fairy tale and never existed, Clara's response was included the type of contradiction. After that, Clara added by saying "because it does not exist," her statement indicated the type of counterclaim.

#### 2.2 Context of Situation

Disagreement can occur in a discussion because there is a misinterpretation of the intended meaning. Thus it is essential to study the expression of disagreement in the context of discourse. Context has a significant influence in understanding the meaning of a speech, especially in understanding disagreement speech. Situation context features consist of participants, setting, code, topic, event, message form, key, purpose, and channel (Hymes in Brown & Yule, 1983, p. 38). These features are needed to interpret the meaning of speech so that the speaker and the interlocutor will not misinterpret in understanding speech. However sometimes, the speaker does not use a disagreement strategy when they are arguing with their interlocutors, and they choose to be silent or use specific strategies, such as agreement and avoidance (Chen, 2006). This is done to avoid conflict with the speaker. The reason is related to certain aspects, such as the topics discussed are not necessary, respect, the context that is not appropriate, social relations, and social status.

#### 2.3 United States Presidential Debate

Debate is an activity pitting an argument about a topic or case being discussed between two or more parties that are individual or group. In a debate, the speaker must be disciplined in presenting an argument in a disciplined manner. There are two types of debates; they are formal debates and informal debates. Examples included informal debates are such as debates between leaders, which are sometimes held in democratic countries. Meanwhile, informal debates usually occur in a forum held on TV shows, such as talk shows.

The presidential debate is included in a formal debate because it is followed by presidential candidates in a country. The presidential debate is the same as the political debate. The purpose of holding a presidential debate is an opportunity to discuss the agenda and to find out how the presidential candidate arguments or ideas about a topic that is happening in their country, so that it can be seen how their leadership potential if they win the campaign. By holding a presidential debate, the people can consider who will be elected during the presidential election. The people can also assess the ability of a presidential candidate.

Two stages that must be passed before the presidential and vice-presidential elections in the United States; conduct campaigns and debates. Presidential debates are held every four years in the even years before the presidential election. According to Debora (2020), the United States presidential election process has four stages; caucuses and primers, national conventions, elections, and electoral colleges. The debate is followed by presidential candidates. The United States presidential debates are divided into three parts. Each debate is held in a different place, with different moderators and topics. Presidential candidates usually meet in the hall in front of the audience and take turns answering questions raised by moderators. The debate was broadcast live via radio, television, and live streaming.

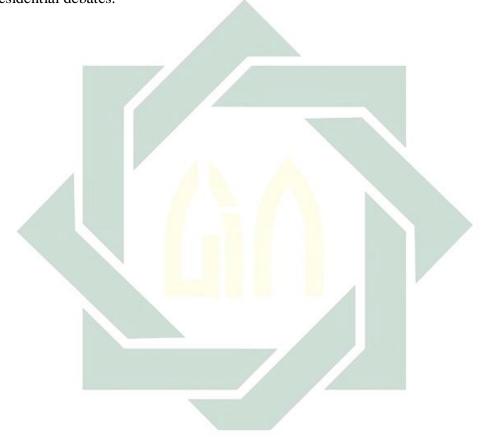
A presidential candidate is declared to have won the general election when he or she has received at least 270 electoral votes. When he or she got the most votes and won the presidential election, the elected president took the oath and was inaugurated as President of the United States on January 20 every four years in the year after the election year. January 20 is used as the day of the inauguration of the United States President starting in 1937 when Roosevelt was inaugurated to a second term as United States President. In subsequent years, when January 20 fell on Sunday, the presidential oath-taking ceremony was held

on January 21. In the United States, it takes more than 11 weeks between election and inauguration day to give the new president more time to elect a cabinet and plan a new government (Debora, 2020, para. 19-25).

2020 United States presidential debates are the debate for presidential candidates between Donald Trump from the Republican Party and Joe Biden from the Democratic Party. The first debate was held on September 29, 2020. The second debate was initially scheduled to be held on October 15, 2020, but it was canceled because Donald Trump tested positive for Covid-19. Initially, the debate was set to be held in a virtual format, but Donald Trump refused it so that the 2020 United States presidential debates only held two debates. The last debate was held on October 22, 2020. Topics used in debates are usually controversial topics that occur at the time, and the results of this debate can affect the results of the general election. The first debate discussed six topics; Supreme Court, Covid-19, the Trump and Biden records, economics, racism, and electoral integrity. The last debate discussed six topics; combating Covid-19, the American family, climate change, leadership, race in America, and national security. All debates took place around 9 pm to 10:30 pm EDT.

The vice presidential debate is also organized by the presidential debate commission. 2020 United States vice-presidential debate was held only once on October 7, 2020, at the University of Utah, Salt Lake City, moderated by Susan Page, anchor of "USA Today." 2020 United States vice-presidential debate was participated by Mike Pence from the Republican Party and Kamala Harris from the Democratic Party. This debate consists of nine segments, the duration of each

segment is around 10 minutes. There are nine topics discussed; the coronavirus pandemic, foreign policy issues, economy, climate change, race, the election, abortion, healthcare, and the United States attitude towards China. In this study, the researcher only analyzed disagreement strategies in the 2020 United States presidential debates.



#### **CHAPTER III**

#### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This chapter presents the procedures for conducting this present study. First, the research design. Second, the data collection, which consists of research data, data source, research instruments, and techniques of data collection. Third, the data analysis.

# 3.1 Research Design

In this research, the researcher used the descriptive qualitative method. The researcher used this method because she wants to get sufficient description and understanding in analyzing the disagreement strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates. Qualitative research is related to developing explanations of social phenomena (Hancock, 1998, p. 2). This means, by using qualitative research, it can be known as descriptive of an event, situation, or problem and more in-depth insights about a topic being studied.

#### 3.2 Data Collection

This section consists of research data, data sources, research instruments used in this research to help the researcher, and the techniques of the data collection.

#### 3.2.1 Research Data

The data of this research is in the form of utterances produced by Donald Trump and Joe Biden that contain disagreements strategies when they do debate.

The debate analyzed in this study is the 2020 United States presidential debate. This debate consists of two debates. The researcher used the first and the last debate as data. The researcher chose the first and last debate as data because the debates discussed interesting topics in which the presidential candidates expressed disagreements with the opinions or statements of other candidates. This debate gives the reader information about the arguments presented by the presidential candidates.

#### 3.2.2 Data Sources

The data sources of this study are the videos of the 2020 United States presidential debates, which contains two debates. The debate videos were obtained from the Sky News YouTube channel, which officially broadcasted on the Sky News channel <a href="https://www.youtube.com/user/skynews">https://www.youtube.com/user/skynews</a>. The first debate was a live broadcast from Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio on September 29, 2020, moderated by Chris Wallace, anchor of "Fox News." There are six topics discussed; Supreme Court, Covid-19, the Trump and Biden records, economics, racism, and electoral integrity. The duration of this debate is around 1 hour 30 minutes. This debate consists of six segments, the duration of each segment is 15 minutes. At the start of the segment, the moderator asks Donald Trump and Joe Biden the same opening question. They have two minutes to respond to the questions. From the beginning of the segment, an open discussion continues until the end of the segment. The audience present at the debate is requested to remain silent during the debate so that they can focus on every word delivered by the presidential candidate.

The last debate was a live broadcast from Belmont University in Nashville, Tennessee, on October 22, 2020, moderated by Kristen Welker, anchor of "NBC News." There are six topics discussed; combating Covid-19, the American family, climate change, leadership, race in America, and national security. The duration of this debate is around 1 hour 30 minutes. At the start of the segment, the moderator asks Donald Trump and Joe Biden the same opening question. They have two minutes to respond to the questions. In the last debate, new regulations were implemented; the Debate Commission turns on each candidate's microphone only when it is their turn to answer, and the Commission turns off each candidate's microphone when they do not have a turn to answer. The goal is to avoid interrupting each other, and the audience can listen carefully to every sentence uttered by the candidate.

The subjects of this research are Donald Trump and Joe Biden, the candidates for president of the United States. The criterion applied to choose the subject is the person who is most influential to the course of the debate. Donald Trump and Jon Biden are the most influential people in the 2020 United States presidential debates. Therefore, they were selected as the research subjects.

Donald Trump is the 45th president of the United States from 2017 until 2021. He lost the United States presidential election in 2020. Trump is the first United States president who has never served in the military. He is also a real estate entrepreneur and developer. Trump is known to the world by the title "King of Real Estate," which made him the first American president to have a business background. Since 1987, Donald Trump has been registered as a member of the

Republican Party, but since then, he has changed parties five times. In 2001, Donald Trump switched to the Democratic Party, and in 2011 chose to become an independent member. Trump changed to the Republican Party from 2012 until now. In 2000, Trump resigned from his candidacy for the United States presidential election before the voting process (Christine, 2017, para. 2-7). Donald Trump is a person who cannot hear the views or input of others and always acts first before thinking about the impact. Trump has a personality that is easy to feel uncomfortable when he does not get a significant place of recognition, and he also wants things to be done briefly (Gustari, 2017, para. 20-22).

Joseph Robinette Biden Jr. or familiarly called Joe Biden is the 46th president of the United States. He won the United States presidential election in 2020. Biden is also a politician and lawyer. He is a former United States Vice President who accompanied Barack Obama's leadership. In 1988, Biden resigned from his candidacy for the United States presidential election. He has faced various ups and downs in his long career in Washington. Joe Biden hit the national stage at the age of 29, with the shock victory of the United States Senate in Delaware in 1972. He is one of the youngest senators and spent more than three decades in the upper house before becoming Vice President under Barack Obama's leadership (Sicca, 2020, para. 8-18). Joe Biden is a figure who does not give up easily and always gets up from all the bad things that have happened to him. He also cares and pays attention to health issues and disabilities. Biden is also an inspiring figure. He once revealed that a job is not just a salary, but must reflect dignity and respect (Sayusi, 2020, para. 7-14).

#### 3.2.3 Research Instruments

In this study, the main instrument is the researcher herself. According to Ary, Jacobs, Sorensen, and Razavieh (2010, p. 424), the main instrument in qualitative research is the human instrument. The researcher is the main instrument because she collected, analyzed, interpreted the data, and made research conclusions. The researcher collected the data by watching the video of the first and third United States presidential debates and then analyzed the utterances spoken by Donald Trump and Joe Biden.

# 3.2.4 Techniques of Data Collection

The following steps were taken by the researcher in collecting data:

- 1. Searched the videos of the first and third 2020 United States presidential debates on YouTube and the scripts of the debate videos on Google.
- 2. Watched the debate videos and read the entire scripts carefully and thoroughly to understand the content of the debates.
- 3. Downloaded the debate videos from Sky News YouTube channel. By downloading video, the researcher can easily watch and listen anywhere and anytime. As for the scripts, the researcher downloaded them from the Rev website. Then the researcher matched the scripts that had been downloaded with the utterances spoken by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the debate videos. If the scripts that had been downloaded does not match with the utterances spoken by the presidential candidates in the debate videos, then the researcher revised the scripts so that it matches

with the utterances spoken by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the debate videos.

4. The researcher collected the data in the form of utterances spoken by

Donald Trump and Joe Biden that contain disagreement strategies and
highlighted the selected data. Then, the researcher identified utterances
that contain disagreeing strategies.

# 3.3 Data Analysis

#### 1. Identifying data

The researcher identified the data that indicate or contain disagreement strategies. Then, the researcher highlighted the data that contain the types of disagreeing strategies of Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998). Five colors represent the types of disagreement strategies: turquoise for irrelevancy claim, yellow for challenge, red for contradiction, pink for counterclaim, and bright green for contradiction followed by counterclaim.

Each type of disagreement strategy has different characteristics.

Irrelevancy claim is usually marked by words and expressions like *it does not make sense*; *it is nothing to do with it*. Challenge is usually marked by questions such as *when, what, who, why, where,* and *how*. Contradiction is usually marked by negative particles such as *I disagree, I do not think so*.

Counterclaims are usually marked by the reasons why the speaker disagrees with the interlocutor's claim. Contradiction followed by counterclaim is usually marked by the use of a contradiction pattern like "*No, I do not think so*"

....", "I disagree. ....", then immediately followed by a specific claim to counter the interlocutor's previous statement.

#### Picture 1: The example of identifying data

Joe Biden: Because he, in fact, already has cost 10 million people their health care that they had from their employers because of his recession, number one. Number two, there are 20 million people getting health care through Obamacare now that he wants to take it away. He won't ever look you in the eye and say that's what he wants to do, take it away. Number three...

Donald Trump: No, I want to give them better health care at a much lower price because Obamacare is no good.

Joe Biden: He doesn't know how. He doesn't know how to do that.

# 2. Classifying data

After identifying the data, the researcher classified the data into a table. The table consists of the name of the subjects, they are Donald Trump and Joe Biden, and types of disagreeing strategies. To show the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden, the total number of utterances is presented. That would show how many times Trump and Biden used the type of disagreeing strategies. The names of the types of disagreeing strategies were abbreviated to make the table shorter and simpler. They are IC for Irrelevancy Claim, CH for Challenge, CN for Contradiction, CM for Counterclaim, and CN+CM for Contradiction followed by Counterclaim. The researcher provided a code for each finding, such as D1/S3/6. D1 means the first debate. S3 means the third segment. The number 6 shows in what minutes the data was found.

Table 3.1: The Example of Classifying Data for Each Type of Disagreement Strategies

Disugicoment strategies					
Name	IC	СН	CN	CM	CN+CM
Donald Trump	D1/S1/9	D1/S1/12	D3/S1/16	D1/S2/20	D3/S1/16
Joe Biden	D1/S3/38	D1/S3/38	D1/S3/39	D1/S1/24	D1/S3/47
Total					

Afterward, the researcher made a percentage of each type of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden from the total results of each type in the table above. The researcher put the research findings from the table into the pie charts to classify the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden. The pie charts show the percentage of both presidential candidates in applying disagreeing strategies.

 Analyzing the similarities and the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies

The researcher made a comparison between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreement strategies to be able to get the similarities and differences. The researcher compared the findings of each type of disagreeing strategy above by using a chart. The use of the chart can clearly show the similarities and differences of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies.

# 4. Drawing Conclusion

After all the research problems are answered, the researcher then provides a conclusion based on the findings of the study.

#### **CHAPTER IV**

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

This chapter presents the research results, which explain findings and discussion. This chapter also answers the two research questions; (1) what are the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates, and (2) what are the similarities and the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the disagreeing strategies.

# 4.1 Findings

In the first part, the researcher focused on the first research problem about types of disagreeing strategies. The researcher classified disagreeing strategies data based on Muntigl and Turnbull's (1998) theory. Here, the researcher found ten types of disagreeing strategies applied by Donald Trump and seven types of disagreeing strategies applied by Joe Biden. The finding of the second research problem is about similarities and differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the disagreeing strategies. The researcher found two similarities and one difference.

# 4.1.1 Types of Disagreeing Strategies applied by Donald Trump and Joe Biden

There are five types of disagreeing strategies proposed by Muntigl and Turnbull (1998). They are irrelevancy claims, challenge, contradiction, counterclaim, and contradiction followed by counterclaim. The researcher found

all types of disagreeing strategies based on Muntigl and Turnbull's (1998) theory. The researcher found ten types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump in the first and third debates with 101 utterances. Meanwhile, there are seven types of disagreeing strategies used by Joe Biden in the first and third debates with 101 utterances. The complete findings of the type of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden are shown in the pie charts below (Figure 4.1 and

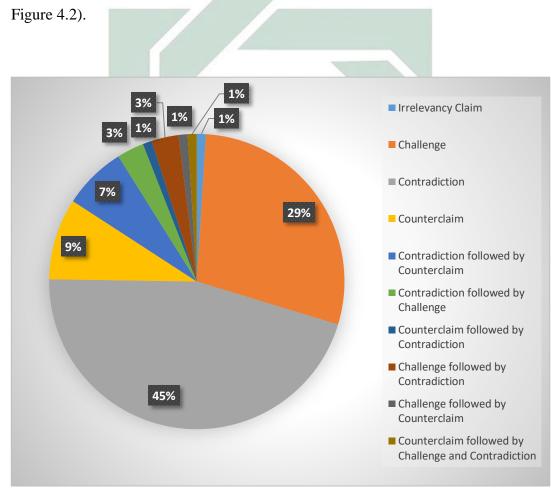


Figure 4.1 Donald Trump's Disagreeing Strategies

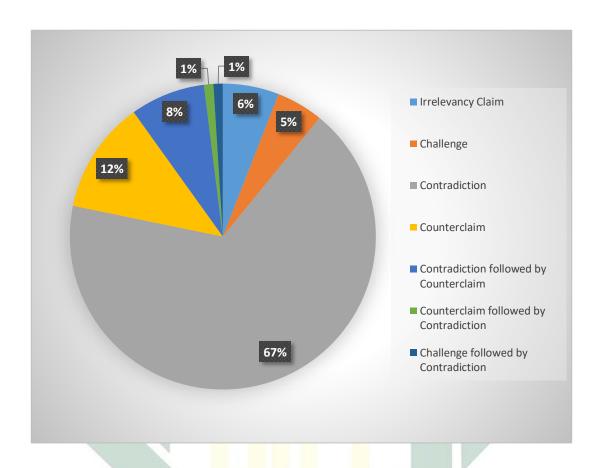


Figure 4.2 Joe Biden's Disagreeing Strategies

Figure 4.1 shows that there are ten types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump; they are irrelevancy claim, challenge, contradiction, counterclaim, contradiction followed by counterclaim, contradiction followed by challenge, counterclaim followed by contradiction, challenge followed by contradiction, challenge followed by counterclaim, and counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. Meanwhile, there are seven types of disagreeing strategies used by Joe Biden; they are irrelevancy claim, challenge, contradiction, counterclaim, contradiction followed by counterclaim, counterclaim followed by contradiction, and challenge followed by contradiction.

### 4.1.1.1 Irrelevancy Claim

Irrelevancy claim is the type of disagreement strategy that has a function where the speaker reveals that the claims made by the interlocutor are unreasonable or not following the topic being discussed. The use of this type indirectly indicates that the speaker disagrees with the interlocutor's claim. This type of disagreement strategy was found in the 2020 United States presidential debates. Both presidential candidates, Donald Trump and Joe Biden used it to express their disagreement. As illustrated in figure 4.1, Donald Trump has a percentage of 1%. He only used this type once. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used 'irrelevancy claim' in 6 utterances with a percentage of 6%. The following are the data found by the researcher in the 2020 United States presidential debates.

#### Excerpt 1

**WALLACE:** If I might finish the question, what does re-imagining policing mean, and do you support the Black Lives Matter call uh, for uh, community control of policing?

**BIDEN:** Look, what I support is the police having the opportunity to deal with the problems they face, and I'm totally opposed to defunding the police offices. As a matter of fact, police, local police, the only one defunding, in his budget calls for a \$400 million cut in local law enforcement assistance. They need more assistance. They need when they show up for a 9-11 call to have someone with them as a psychologist or psychiatrist to keep them from having to use force and be able to talk people down. We have to have community policing like we had before, where the officers get to know the people in the communities. That's when crime went down, it didn't go up. It went down. And so we have to be engaged with . . .

TRUMP: That's not what they are talking about, Chris. That's not what it...

He's talking about defunding the police. (D1/S4/62)

Chris Wallace as the moderator in the first debate asking Joe Biden a question regarding Black Lives Matter's support for community control of policing. Biden answered Wallace's question by stating that he supports the police to have a

chance to deal with the problems they face, and he is entirely against defunding the police offices. Responding to Biden's answer, Trump said that Biden's answer had nothing to do with the topic they were talking about. In which they are talking about re-imagining policing and community control of policing. However, Biden instead talking about defunding the police, which means Biden's claims are irrelevant to the topic being discussed.

#### Excerpt 2

**BIDEN:** Look, here's the deal. We want to talk about families and ethics. I don't want to do that. I mean, his family, we could talk about all night. His family's already-

TRUMP: My family-WALLACE: No, no-

**TRUMP:** My family lost a fortune by coming down and helping us with

government.

**BIDEN:** And that's such a-WALLACE: Mr. President-

**TRUMP**: Every single one of them lost a fortune by coming down and helping us with government.

BIDEN: This is not about my family or his family. It's about your family, the American people. (D1/S3/47)

In the first debate, Donald Trump mentioned Joe Biden's family, especially about his son. In the data above, Biden said that he does not want to talk about Donald Trump's family, because it would take up the whole night if he talked about Trump's family. Then Donald Trump responded that his family always spends a lot of money to help the government. Biden said that they should not talk about his family or Trump's family, but they should talk about the American family. Biden's claim shows the type of irrelevancy claim because he refutes claims from Trump that are irrelevant to the topic they should be discussing.

Trump offends the Biden family who should not be connected to the topic of debate.

#### Excerpt 3

**BIDEN:** I'm here standing facing you, old buddy.

**TRUMP:** If Pocahontas would have left two days early you would have lost

every primary

**BIDEN:** All he knows how to do-

**TRUMP:** On Super Tuesday, you got very lucky.

**BIDEN:** Look he's the deal. I got very lucky. I'm going to get very lucky

tonight as well.

**TRUMP:** With what?

**BIDEN:** And tonight I'm going to make sure.

**TRUMP:** With what?

BIDEN: Because here's the deal, here's the deal. The fact is that everything he's saying so far is simply a lie. I'm not here to call out his

lies. Everybody knows he's a liar. (D1/S1/13)

Irrelevancy claim is marked by a claim from the speaker who thinks that the interlocutor's statements are irrelevant to the topic being discussed. The data above shows that Joe Biden and Donald Trump are in a heated debate. It can be seen how they use inappropriate sentences between each other. Biden made a statement that everything Trump said was a lie. Biden's statement is included in the type of irrelevancy claim because he considers that all of Trump's statements are irrelevant.

#### 4.1.1.2 Challenge

Challenge is the second type of disagreement strategy used by both presidential candidates. Challenge is a type of disagreement strategy with a function where the speaker asks the interlocutor about their claim. This indicates that the speaker needs evidence from the interlocutor regarding his/her opinion or claim. This type indirectly indicates that the speaker disagrees with the

interlocutor's claim. Usually, this type is marked by a question from the speaker, such as *who*, *where*, *when*, *how*. This type is not only marked by a question but can also be marked by a sentence that indicates directly that the speaker needs evidence from the interlocutor. Donald Trump used 'challenge' in 21 utterances in the first debate and eight utterances in the third debate with a percentage of 29%. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used this type less than Donald Trump. Joe Biden used 'challenge' in 5 utterances with a 5% percentage.

### Excerpt 4

**BIDEN:** Whatever position I take on that, that'll become the issue. The issue is the American people should speak. You should go out and vote. You're voting now. Vote and let your Senators know how strongly you feel.

TRUMP: Are you going to pack the court?

**BIDEN:** Vote now.

TRUMP: Are you going to pack the court?

**BIDEN:** Make sure you, in fact, let people know, your Senators. **TRUMP:** He doesn't want to answer the question. (D1/S1/16)

In the data above, Donald Trump asks Joe Biden the same question. He asks Biden, 'are you going to pack the court?'. Trump's question indicates that he needs proof of Biden's previous statements. Previously, moderator Wallace asked Joe Biden whether he would support either ending the filibuster or packing the court. Biden responded to Wallace's question by saying that whatever his choice of position would be an issue and it depended on the choice of the American public. In other words, Biden did not answer Wallace's question directly. Trump responded by asking if Biden would pack the court. Trump's question shows his disagreement with Biden's statement because he questioned Biden's statement, which indicates the use of 'challenge.' Biden himself did not respond or pay attention to Trump's question.

# Excerpt 5

**BIDEN:** My son. . . like a lot of people. Like a lot of people we know at home had a drug problem. He's overtaken it. He's, he's fixed it. He's worked on it. And I'm proud of him. I'm proud of my son.

TRUMP: <u>But why was he given tens of millions of dollars?</u> (D1/S5/71)

Previously, Trump claimed to one of Joe Biden's sons that he had received three and a half million dollars from the wife of the Moscow mayor. Joe Biden then explained that his son, who was indeed affected by drug problems, had slowly started to improve himself from his addiction to drugs, and he was always proud of him. Then Trump asked but why his son earns such a large amount of money. Trump's question is included in the type of challenge, where Trump needs evidence toward Biden's claims.

#### Excerpt 6

**TRUMP:** He doesn't have any law support. He has no law enforcement support. Almost nothing.

**BIDEN:** That's not true. That's not. . . Oh, look. . .

TRUMP: Oh, really, who do you have? Name one group that supports you. Name one group that came out and supported you. Go ahead. Think. We have time. (D1/S4/62)

The type of challenge in the data above is when Trump asks Biden to tell the law group that supports him. Trump has previously claimed that Biden lacked law enforcement support. Biden denied Trump's claim by saying that it was not true. Trump responded to Biden's disagreeing by asking him to prove his words by mentioning the law groups that supported him. Trump's action of asking Biden for evidence are included in the type of challenge.

#### Excerpt 7

**TRUMP:** I paid millions of dollars in taxes, millions of dollars of income tax. And let me just tell you, there was a story in one of the papers that paid-

**BIDEN: Show us your tax returns.** 

**TRUMP:** I paid \$38 million one year, I paid \$27 million one year.

BIDEN: Show us your tax returns. (D1/S3/38)

Challenge is used when the speaker needs evidence of the interlocutor's claim or statement. Usually, this type is marked with a question. The type of challenge above is not marked with a question but instead shows where Donald Trump directly asked Joe Biden for evidence of his statement. Biden said he paid millions of dollars in taxes. Trump immediately responded by asking Biden to show proof of the tax return Biden had paid. Trump's actions are included in the type of challenge, in which he asked for proof of Biden's tax return because he made a statement that he has paid taxes every year.

#### 4.1.1.3 Contradiction

Contradiction is a type of direct disagreement strategy. This type has a function where the speaker directly expresses his/her disagreement and refutes the interlocutor's opinion or claim. Usually, this type is marked by negative particles such as *no*, *I* do not think so, *I* disagree.

Contradiction is the type of disagreement strategy most used by the two presidential candidates in the 2020 United States presidential debates. In the first debate, the two presidential candidates used this type more than in the third debate. Donald Trump used this type 37 times in the first debate and nine times in the third debate with a total percentage of 45%. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used this type 53 times in the first debate and 15 times in the third debate with a total percentage of 67%.

35

## Excerpt 8

**BIDEN:** Let me finish. The point is that the President also is opposed to Roe V. Wade. That's on the ballot as well and the court, in the court, and so that's also at stake right now. And so the election is all-

**TRUMP:** You don't know what's on the ballot. Why is it on the ballot? Why is it on the ballot? It's not on the ballot.

**BIDEN:** It's on the ballot in the court.

TRUMP: I don't think so.

**BIDEN:** In the court.

TRUMP: There's nothing happening there. (D1/S1/9)

Contradiction is a type of direct disagreement strategy. In this type, the speaker immediately refutes the interlocutor's opinion or statement. In the data above, Trump repeatedly used 'contradiction' to show his disagreement toward Biden's statement. Biden said that the president who referred to Donald Trump was against Roe V. Wade, and that was on the ballot in the court. Trump replied clearly that it was not on the ballot and said that Biden had no idea what was actually on the ballot. Biden restated that it was on the ballot in the court. The data above shows how both candidates defended their statements, where they directly expressed their disagreement with each other's statements.

## Excerpt 9

**TRUMP:** Who is, Bernie?

**BIDEN**: Because he, in fact, already has cost 10 million people their healthcare that they had from their employers because of his recession. Number one. Number two, there are 20 million people getting healthcare through Obamacare now that he wants to take it away. He won't ever look you in the eye and say that's what he wants to do. Take it away.

TRUMP: No, I want to give them better healthcare at a much lower price, because Obamacare is no good. (D1/S1/14)

Trump used the word 'no' to contradict Biden's claims. Biden claimed that Trump had gotten 10 million people for health care, whereas Obamacare could get 20 million for health care services. Obamacare is a health service that was

launched during the Obama and Biden presidencies. Trump immediately responded that he gave Americans better health care at a much lower price, adding that Obamacare was no good. In this way, Trump directly indicated his disagreement with Biden's claims. Trump's statement is included in the type of contradiction.

#### Excerpt 10

**BIDEN:** Well, he hadn't drawn a line. He still, for example, makes sure that we, he wants to make sure that methane's not a problem. We can, you, you can now emit more methane without it being a problem. Methane. This is a guy who says that you don't have to have mileage standards for automobiles that exist now. This is the guy who says that, well the fact is. . .

TRUMP: Not true. Not true. (D1/S5/79)

Joe Biden claimed to Trump that he is still making sure that methane is not a problem and society does not have to have mileage standards for cars. Biden's claim was immediately denied by Trump, by saying that it was not true. Trump used the type of contradiction in his rebuttal to Biden's claims by saying 'not true.' Trump repeated his sentence twice, indicating that he genuinely believed that Biden's claims against him were false.

## Excerpt 11

**BIDEN:** The fact is, it's going to create millions of good-paying jobs. And these tax incentives to people, for people to weatherize, which he wants to get, get rid of. It's going to make the economy much safer. Look how much we're paying now to deal with the hurricanes, with, deal with. . . By the way, he has an answer for hurricanes. He said, maybe we should drop a nuclear weapon on them, and they may go away.

TRUMP: I never said that at all. (D1/S5/80)

In the example above, Donald Trump used the type of contradiction to show his disagreement with Biden's claim. Biden claimed that Trump knew a lot about hurricanes and that he was going to drop nuclear weapons. Trump immediately refuted Biden's claim, using the word 'never,' which indicates negative particles that belong to the type of contradiction.

#### Excerpt 12

**TRUMP:** China ate your lunch, Joe. And no wonder your son goes in and, what—, he takes out billions of dollars. He takes out billions of dollars to manage. He makes millions of dollars. And also, while we're at it, why is it just out of curiosity, the mayor of Moscow's wife gave your son three and a half million dollars?

BIDEN: That is not true.

TRUMP: What did he do to deserve it? What did he do with Burisma-

**BIDEN: None of that is true.** (D1/S3/45)

Trump claimed that Joe Biden's son had received three and a half million dollars from the wife of the Moscow mayor. Then Biden responded to Trump's claim by saying that it was not true. In this case, Biden directly refuted Trump's claim by using the negative particle 'not,' which indicates the use of 'contradiction'. Responding to Biden's disagreement, Trump then asked why Biden's son got the money. However, Biden just said that his son did not receive the money. Biden used the type of contradiction to show his disagreement with Donald Trump's claims.

#### Excerpt 13

**TRUMP:** If you were a certain person, you had no status in life. It was sort of a reversal. And if you look at the people, we would pay people hundreds of thousands of dollars to teach very bad ideas and frankly, very sick ideas. And, and really, they were teaching people to hate our country. And I'm not going to do that. I'm not going to allow that to happen. We have to go back to the core values of this country. They were teaching people that our country is a horrible place. It's a racist place. And they were teaching people to hate our country. And I'm not going to allow that to happen.

BIDEN: Nobody's doing that.
WALLACE: Vice President Biden.

BIDEN: Nobody's doing that. He's the racist. (D1/S4/57)

In the data above, Biden used the type of contradiction twice. He disagrees with Trump's claims that some people pay Americans to hate their own country and teach people that America is a terrible place. Biden responded that no one would do that. No one is willing to pay someone else to hate their own country. Biden also used the word 'racist,' which refers to Donald Trump. Where the use of the word is included in a negative word. Biden firmly believes that the claims made by Trump are entirely untrue.

## Excerpt 14

**BIDEN:** Speaking of my son, the way you talk about the military, the way you talk about them being losers and being, and, and, and just being suckers. My son was in Iraq. He spent a year there. He got, he got the Bronze Star. He got the Conspicuous Service Medal. He was not a loser. He was a patriot and the people left behind, there, were heroes.

TRUMP: Really? BIDEN: And I resent-

**TRUMP:** Are you talking Hunter, are you talking about Hunter.

BIDEN: I'm talking about my son, Beau Biden, you're talking about Hunter?

TRUMP: I don't know Beau. I know Hunter. Hunter got thrown out of the

military. He was thrown out dishonorably discharged. . .

BIDEN: That's not true he wasn't dishonorably discharged. (D1/S5/71)

Biden explained that one of his sons had been in Iraq for a year. This is where he can get the Bronze Star and Conspicuous Service Medal. Biden also boasts that his son is a patriot, not a loser. Trump responded to Biden's statement by asking which of his sons he was talking to. Biden talks about his son named Beau Biden, while Trump does not know about Beau, what Trump is talking about is Biden's son named Hunter. Previously Trump made claims that Hunter had received three and a half million dollars worth of money from the wife of the Moscow mayor. In the data above, Trump said that Hunter was expelled from the military in a dishonorable way. Responding to Trump's claim, Biden immediately showed his

disagreement by saying that his son, Hunter, was not dismissed in a dishonorable manner. The use of a negative particle in the form of 'not' indicates a type of contradiction.

## Excerpt 15

**TRUMP:** So why didn't you get the world—China sends up real dirt into the air. Russia does. India does. They all do. We're supposed to be good. And by the way, he made a couple of statements. The Green New Deal is a hundred trillion dollars. . .

**BIDEN:** That is not my plan.

TRUMP: ...not 20 billion. ...

BIDEN: The Green New Deal is not my plan. (D1/S5/79)

Donald Trump claimed to Biden that he was involved in the planning of the Green New Deal. The Green New Deal is a proposed economic stimulus program aimed at tackling global warming and economic inequality. This name refers to the New Deal, an economic and social reform program and a public works project launched by the United States President Franklin D. Then, Joe Biden denied Trump's claim. He used this type of contradiction to show his disagreement. Biden confirmed his disagreement twice by saying that The Green New Deal was not his plan at all.

#### Excerpt 16

**TRUMP:** What is peaceful protest? When they run through the middle of the town-

**WALLACE:** President Trump-

**TRUMP:** ... and burn down your stores and kill people all over the place-[crosstalk].

BIDEN: That is not peaceful protest. TRUMP: No it's not, but you say it is. BIDEN: I did not say it is. (D1/S4/55)

In the data above, Joe Biden refutes Trump's claim in which he said that a peaceful protest is where people run in the middle of the city, burn shops or

buildings and kill people. Biden said that it was not a peaceful protest, and he never said it was a peaceful protest. The use of the negative particle 'not' in Biden's rebuttal indicates the use of 'contradiction.

#### 4.1.1.4 Counterclaim

Counterclaim has a function where the speaker indirectly disagrees by providing reasons or opinions contrary to the interlocutor. This type is included in the indirect disagreement strategy, because the speaker does not directly deny the interlocutor's statement, but by providing reasons or alternative claims different from the interlocutor. This type is also included in the polite disagreement strategy.

Both presidential candidates used 'counterclaim' in the first and third debates. Donald Trump used this type 9 times in the first and third debates with a percentage of 9%. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used this type 12 times with a percentage of 12% in the first and third debates.

#### Excerpt 17

BIDEN: Let's talk about what we're talking about. What happened? Parents were ripped... Their kids were ripped from their arms and separated, and now they cannot find over 500 of the sets of those parents, and those kids are alone. Nowhere to go. Nowhere to go. It's criminal. It's criminal. WELKER: Let me ask you about in 10 seconds and then I need to ask TRUMP: Kristen, I will say this. They went down. We brought reporters, everything. They are so well taken care of. They're in facilities that were so clean. (D3/S3/60)

The data above shows the type of counterclaim used by Donald Trump. The third debate discussed one of the topics about immigration. Kristen Welker, as moderator talked about immigration in the family context, where Donald Trump's

administration has separated children from their parents at the border, at least 4,000 children. Trump himself has canceled a zero-tolerance policy, but the United States has been unable to find parents of more than 500 children. Joe Biden responded that the actions that have been carried out by Donald Trump's administration are a crime. They have the heart to separate the children from their parents. Then Donald Trump responded to Joe Biden's claim by saying that children who have not been reunited with their parents receive excellent care and also get adequate facilities from the government. Donald Trump's response to Joe Biden's claims includes the use of 'counterclaim.' Because Trump provides an alternative claim that children receive adequate facilities and care from the government, Trump's claim contradicts Biden's claim.

#### Excerpt 18

**TRUMP:** Well, we're going to deliver it right away. We have the military all set up. Logistically, they're all set up. We have our military that delivers soldiers and they can do 200,000 a day. They're going to be delivering-

**BIDEN:** This is the same man who told you-

**TRUMP:** It's all set up.

**BIDEN:** ... by Easter, this would be gone away. By the warm weather, it'd be gone. Miraculous, like a miracle. And by the way, maybe you could inject some bleach in your arm, and that would take care of it. This is the same man. **TRUMP:** That was said sarcastically, and you know that. That was said sarcastically.

BIDEN: So here's the deal. This man is talking about a vaccine. Every serious company is talking about maybe having a vaccine done by the end of the year, but the distribution of that vaccine will not occur until sometime beginning of the middle of next year to get it out if we get the vaccine. And pray God we will. Pray God we will. (D1/S2/24)

In the data above, Joe Biden disagrees with Donald Trump's statement. They both argue over the supply of vaccines from the government. Trump said that the government already has a military ready, and logistics ready to be sent to the

public. However, Biden opposed Trump's claims. Biden's response above indicates the use of 'counterclaim.' Biden started his response by saying that Trump was talking about a vaccine, but then Biden used the word 'but', which indicated that Trump's statement could not be accepted. Biden gave reasons for his disagreement. Biden said that vaccines distributed from the government to the public would not be made available until mid-year.

### 4.1.1.5 Contradiction followed by Counterclaim

This type includes two types of disagreeing strategies, namely contradiction followed by counterclaim. This type is preceded by 'contradiction,' which is usually marked by the use of negative particles. Contradiction has a function where the speaker provides a reason or an alternative claim against the interlocutor's claim. In the 2020 United States presidential debates, both presidential candidates used this type. Donald Trump used this type 7 times with a percentage of 7% in the first and third debates. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used this type 8 times with a percentage of 8% in the first and third debates.

## Excerpt 19

**BIDEN**: Number one, he knows what I proposed. What I proposed is that we expand Obamacare and we increase it. We do not wipe any. And one of the big debates we had with 23 of my colleagues trying to win the nomination that I won, were saying that Biden wanted to allow people to have private insurance still. They can. They do. They will under my proposal.

**TRUMP:** That's not what you've said and it's not what your party is saying. **BIDEN:** That is simply a lie.

TRUMP: Your party doesn't say it. Your party wants to go socialist medicine and socialist healthcare. (D1/S1/7)

Joe Biden claimed that the Democratic Party said he had allowed the public to have private insurance. Then, Donald Trump denied Biden's claim by saying, "Your party doesn't say it," which shows the type of contradiction. Because there is a negative particle 'doesn't' used by Donald Trump, which indicates that Biden's statement was not right. Donald Trump also gives reasons and explanations for his disagreement with Biden's statement. Trump has said that the Democratic Party only wants to go to socialist medicine and socialist health care. Trump's statement is included in the type of counterclaim, where Trump expresses the reasons for his disagreement with Biden's statement.

### Excerpt 20.

TRUMP: Joe, you agreed with Bernie Sanders, who's far left, on the

manifesto, we call it. And that gives you socialized medicine.

**BIDEN:** Look, hey.

**TRUMP:** Are you saying you didn't agree?

BIDEN: I'm not going to listen to him. The fact of the matter is I beat Bernie Sanders. (D1/S1/12)

The use of negative particles in Biden's sentence is included in the type of contradiction. Biden used the phrase "I'm not listen to him." This means that he is entirely ignorant and unconcerned about the statements Donald Trump made towards him. Trump addressed a question to Biden about Bernie Sanders and socialized medicine. Biden then responded to Trump's question by saying that he had beaten Bernie Sanders. Biden's response is included the type of counterclaim because he gave reasons for his disagreement with the claims made by Trump. Previously, Bernie Sanders was also nominated as a presidential candidate from the Democratic Party, but he resigned so that Joe Biden became the presidential candidate from the Democratic Party. The data above shows Biden's statement that poor people who meet Medicaid requirements can get private insurance from the state unless they reject those who are poor Medicaid. According to the

statement, anyone who qualifies for Medicaid is automatically registered in the public option.

## 4.1.1.6 Contradiction followed by Challenge

Contradiction followed by Challenge are types of disagreement strategies used by a speaker to deny the interlocutor's claim directly and then ask questions or evidence of the interlocutor's claim. At the beginning of the sentence, the speaker uses the type of contradiction that is used to refute the interlocutor's claim, then followed by the use of the type of challenge, which is used to ask questions to the interlocutor to ask for evidence of his/her previous claim. This type is only used by Donald Trump during the first and third debates. Meanwhile, the researcher did not find this type in the disagreement strategy used by Joe Biden in the first and third debates. Donald Trump used this type 3 times in the first and third debates with a percentage of 3%.

#### Excerpt 21

**TRUMP:** Kristen, I will say this. They went down. We brought reporters, everything. They are so well taken care of. They're in facilities that were so clean.

**WELKER:** But some of them haven't been reunited with their families.

TRUMP: They have gotten such good... But just ask one question. Who built the cages? I'd love you to ask him that. Who built the cages, Joe? (D3/S3.60)

The data above shows 'contradiction followed by counterclaim' used by Donald Trump in the third debate. In segment three, they talk about the separation of children from parents during Donald Trump's reign. Trump said that some people built cages and put stories in newspapers alleging that it was he who built

the terrible cages. Meanwhile, Joe Biden responded to the problem of separating children from their parents by saying that it was a crime. In the data above, Trump said, "They have gotten such a good" which shows that there is a denial from Trump of Joe Biden's previous claims. Trump's denial is included the type of contradiction because he immediately denied Biden's claim. After that, Trump used the type of challenge in which he asked Biden questions about who were the people who had built the cage. Trump's question to Biden has included the type of challenge because Trump asks Biden for evidence. So Trump used a different type of disagreeing strategy to refute Biden's claims. He used the type of contradiction followed by challenge.

# 4.1.1.7 Challenge followed by Contradiction

In this type, the speaker uses the type of challenge at the beginning of the sentence where the speaker asks a question to the interlocutor to find out evidence of the interlocutor's claims. The use of this type implies disagreement from the speaker. After the speaker used the type of challenge, then it is followed by the use of the contradiction type, where the speaker directly counters the interlocutor's claims. With the combination of these two types, the speaker uses an indirect disagreement strategy at the beginning of the sentence then followed by the direct disagreement strategy in the next sentence. In the 2020 United States presidential debates, both presidential candidates used this type. In the third debate, Donald Trump used this type 3 times with a percentage of 3%, and Joe Biden only used it once. Meanwhile, in the first debate, this type was not found.

# Excerpt 22

BIDEN: We commuted over 1,000 people's sentences, over 1,000. The very law he's talking about is a law that in fact, initiated by Barack Obama. And secondly, we're in a situation here where the federal prison system was reduced by 38,000 people under our administration. And one of those things we should be doing, there should be no, no minimum mandatories in the law. That's why I'm offering \$20 billion to states to change their state laws to eliminate minimum mandatories and set up drug courts. No one should be going to jail because they have a drug problem. They should be going to rehabilitation, not to jail. We should fundamentally change the system and that's what I'm going to do.

TRUMP: But why didn't he do it four years ago? Why didn't you do that four years ago? Even less than that. Why didn't you when you vice president? You keep talking about all these things you're going to do, and you're going to do this, but you were there just a short time ago and you guys did nothing. (D3/S4/70)

The data above shows the use of 'challenge followed by contradiction' used by Donald Trump in the third debate. Joe Biden gives his views and goals regarding the law if he is elected president. Among other things, he could offer \$20 billion to states to change their state laws to eliminate mandatory minimums and set up drug courts. Biden also said that people who are exposed to drug problems can not go to prison but must undergo rehabilitation, not prison. In response to Biden's statement, Trump raises questions about why he did not carry out those plans when he was vice president four years ago. Trump's question is included in the type of challenge because he indicates disagreeing with Biden's statement. After that, Trump said that Biden just kept talking without any action or result. Trump's statement is included the type of contradiction which shows his direct denial of Biden's statement.

#### Excerpt 23

**TRUMP:** Now we have to ask him about fracking.

**WELKER:** Let me allow the Vice President Biden to respond.

**BIDEN:** I never said I oppose fracking.

TRUMP: You said it on tape.

**BIDEN:** Show the tape, put it on your website.

**TRUMP:** I'll put it on.

BIDEN: <u>Put it on the website. The fact of the matter is he's flat-lying.</u>

(D3/S5/85)

The data above shows the use of 'challenge followed by contradiction' used by Joe Biden in the third debate. Previously they discussed economy and industry, Donald Trump talked about fracking, which he mentioned that Joe Biden was against fracking. Responding to Trump's claim, Biden also stated clearly that he never said that he was against fracking. Trump responded to Biden's denial by saying that it was on tape. Then Biden responded by saying, "put it on the website," Biden's words were included in the type of challenge, where Biden asked Trump to prove the claims he had made. After that, Biden used the type of contradiction in which he states that the fact of Trump's words is just a lie. Biden's statement is included the type of contradiction because he directly denied the statements Trump has made on him.

# 4.1.1.8 Challenge followed by Counterclaim

This type is a combination of challenge and counterclaim. The speaker uses the type of challenge at the beginning of the sentence and then followed by counterclaim. Challenge has a function where the speaker asks questions to the interlocutor. Counterclaim is used when the speaker expresses the reasons for his disagreement with the other interlocutor's claim. In the 2020 United States presidential debates, this type was only used once by Donald Trump in the third debate. Whereas Joe Biden does not use this type at all.

## Excerpt 24

**TRUMP**: Excuse me. One thing very quickly. He said we have to help our small businesses by raising the minimum wage. That's not helping. I think it should be a state option. Alabama is different than New York. New York is different from Vermont. Every state is different. It should be a state option.

WELKER: You said very recently-

**TRUMP:** It's very important. We have to help our small businesses.

WELKER: You said-

TRUMP: How are you helping your small businesses when you're forcing wages? What's going to happen, and what's been proven to happen, is when you do that, these small businesses fire many of their employees. (D3/S3/57)

The data above shows the use of 'challenge followed by counterclaim' used by Donald Trump in the third debate. Previously they discussed the struggles of small business owners and the decision to raise the minimum wage or not. Joe Biden responded by saying that he is supporting small businesses by raising the minimum wage. Meanwhile, Trump responded to Biden's statement by saying that this would not help and should be the country's option. Then Trump asked Biden a question "How are you helping your small businesses when you're forcing wages?". Trump's question is considered the type of challenge because he indirectly disagrees with Biden's claims by questioning the evidence of the statement made by Biden. After that, Trump added that if Biden raises wages, this small business can lay off many of its employees. Trump's statement is included in the type of counterclaim, where he provides an alternative claim for his disagreement with Biden's claim.

### **4.1.1.9** Counterclaim followed by Contradiction

Counterclaim followed by contradiction is the 9th type of disagreement strategy. Counterclaim is used by the speaker at the beginning of a sentence. This type has a function where the speaker provides reasons or alternative claims to the interlocutor to shows that the speaker has a different opinion from the interlocutor, which also indicates that the speaker disagrees with the interlocutor's claims. After using the type of counterclaim, the speaker uses the type of contradiction where the speaker directly denies and shows his/her disagreement with the interlocutor's claim. Donald Trump and Joe Biden only used this type once. Trump used it in the first debate, while Biden used it in the third debate.

### Excerpt 25

**BIDEN:** The Green New Deal is not my plan. . .

**TRUMP:** . . . You want to rebuild every building.

**BIDEN:** . . . If you knew anything about. . .

**TRUMP:** Well, you want to rebuild everything

**BIDEN:** If he knew anything about. . .

WALLACE: Gentlemen. . . Gentlemen. . .

TRUMP: <u>He made a statement about the military. He said I said</u> something about the military. He and his friends made it up, and then

they went with it. I never said it. (D1/S5/81)

The data above shows the use of 'counterclaim type followed by contradiction' used by Donald Trump in the first debate. Previously, Donald Trump claimed Joe Biden by stating that Biden made a statement about the green new deal that was one hundred trillion dollars, not twenty billion. Trump's claim was immediately denied by Joe Biden. He said that the green new deal was not his plan. Responding to Biden's denial, Trump then made an alternative claim where he mentioned that Biden and his friends said something about the military.

Trump's response is included in the counterclaim type. After that, Trump said, "I never said it," which is included in the type of contradiction, because the use of negative particle in the form of 'never' and also Trump's words is included in direct disagreement strategy.

#### Excerpt 26

**TRUMP:** China pays 28 billion, and you know what they did to pay it, Joe? They devalued their currency and they also paid up, and you know got the money? Our farmers, our great farmers, because they were targeted. You never charged them anything. Also, I charged them 25% on dumped steel, because they were killing our steel industry. We were not going to have a steel industry.

WELKER: Okay.

**TRUMP:** And now we have a steel industry.

**WELKER:** Okay. Vice President Biden, your response, please.

BIDEN: My response is, look, there's a reason why he's bringing up all this malarkey. There's a reason for it. He doesn't want to talk about the substantive issues. It's not about his family and my family. (D3/S2/37)

The data above shows the type of counterclaim followed by contradiction used by Joe Biden in the third debate. In this segment, Donald Trump and Joe Biden are involved in a heated debate, where they mutually defend their opinions. In the data above, Biden responds to Trump's statements about China slowly killing the steel industry. Biden responded by saying that everything Trump said was nonsense and that there was a reason behind that. The response from Biden has included the type of counterclaim. After that, Biden added that Trump does not want to talk about substantive issues and everything they talk about is neither the Biden family nor the Trump family. Biden's words are included in the type of contradiction, where there is the use of negative particles and direct disagreement from Biden to Trump.

### 4.1.1.10 Counterclaim followed by Challenge and Contradiction

This type contains a combination of three types of disagreeing strategies. The speaker uses the type of counterclaim at the beginning of the sentence to indicate the reasons for his/her disagreement with the interlocutor's claim. They were then followed by the type of challenge, where the speaker provides questions to the interlocutor to prove his/her previous claim. After the speaker reveals the reason and asks questions to the interlocutor, then the speaker finally uses the type of contradiction, where he/she directly denies the interlocutor's claim. Usually, the type of contradiction is marked by negative particles, such as *no*, *do not*, *never*. In the 2020 United States presidential debates, only Donald Trump used this type once in the third debate. Joe Biden did not use this type in the first or third debate.

#### Excerpt 27

BIDEN: I don't understand why this President is unwilling to take on Putin when he's actually paying bounties to kill American soldiers in Afghanistan when he's engaged in activities that are trying to destabilize all of NATO. I don't know why he doesn't do it, but it's worth asking the question. Why isn't that being done? Any country that interferes with us will, in fact, pay a price, because they're affecting our sovereignty.

WELKER: President Trump, same question to you. Let me ask the question. You're going to have two minutes to respond. For two elections in a row now, there has been substantial interference from foreign adversaries. What would you do in your next term to put an end to this? Two minutes, uninterrupted.

TRUMP: Well, let me respond to the first part, as Joe answered. Joe got \$3.5 million from Russia and it came through Putin because he was very friendly with the former mayor of Moscow and it was the mayor of Moscow's wife. And you got \$3.5 million. Your family got \$3.5 million. And someday you're going to have to explain, why did you get three and a half? I never got any money from Russia. I don't get money from Russia. (D3/S2/25)

The data above shows the type of counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction used by Donald Trump in the third debate. Previously, Joe Biden

made claims to Donald Trump that he did not want to fight Putin, the president of Russia when he killed American soldiers in Afghanistan and also when he was involved in activities that were trying to destabilize all of NATO. Responding to Biden's claim, Trump presented an alternative claim to Biden regarding his family getting three and a half million dollars from the wife of the Moscow mayor, which came through Putin. Trump's statement is included in the type of counterclaim.

Then Trump said that one day Biden would have to explain why he could get three and a half million dollars from the Moscow mayor's wife. Trump's words are included in the type of challenge because he asked for evidence from Joe Biden.

Then in the last sentence, Trump said that he did not get money from Russia.

Trump's words are included in the type of contradiction because he directly denied Biden's claim against himself that Trump never wants to fight Vladimir Putin, the president of Russia.

# **4.1.2** The Similarities and the Differences of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in Applying Disagreeing Strategies

After discussing the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden, the researcher then shows the similarities and the differences of the disagreeing strategies used by the two presidential candidates. The chart below was used by the researcher to compare the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates.

Figure 4.3 below shows the similarities and the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies.

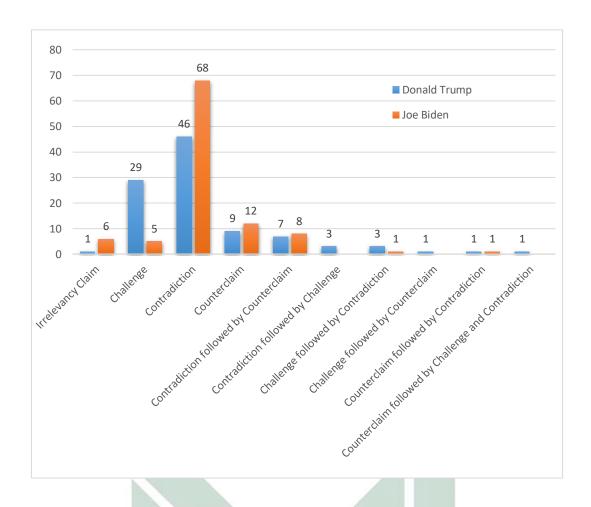


Figure 4.3 Comparison of Number between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in Applying Disagreeing Strategies

# **4.1.2.1** The Similarities of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in Applying Disagreeing Strategies

From the figures above, it can be seen that the two presidential candidates mostly used the type of contradiction than the other types. Donald Trump used the type of contradiction 46 times, and Joe Biden used it 68 times. The use of this type indicates that the two presidential candidates contradict each other's statements or opinions. Both presidential candidates always directly denied the statements conveyed by the interlocutors. The type of contradiction is included in

an impolite type of disagreement strategy because usually, the speaker directly argued by revealing that the statement from the interlocutor was wrong. This type is usually marked by the use of negative particles. Negative particles are often used by both presidential candidates to refute the interlocutor's statement, such as *no*, *never*, *I do not think so*. The following are examples of negative particles in contradiction uttered by Donald Trump and Joe Biden.

#### Excerpt 28

**Trump:** How are you helping your small businesses when you're forcing wages? What's going to happen, and what's been proven to happen, is when you do that, these small businesses fire many of their employees.

Biden: Not true, by the way. (D3/S3/57)

Joe Biden expressed his opinion by stating that to help the small businesses of people living in America, the government must raise wages.

Donald Trump responded to Biden's opinion by saying that the method presented by Biden would not help small businesses, instead many employees would be fired. Biden directly refuted Trump's claim by saying 'not true.' The word 'not' is a negative particle. Biden's response, which directly denied Trump's opinion, include the use of 'contradiction'.

#### Excerpt 29

Trump: No, he made a reference to Abraham Lincoln, where did that come in? I mean-

Biden: You said you're Abraham Lincoln.

Trump: ... where did that..... No.

Biden: You said-

Trump: No, I said, "Not since Abraham Lincoln has anybody done

what I've done for the Black community."

Biden: And I'm saying-

Trump: I didn't say, "I'm Abraham Lincoln," I said, "Not since Abraham Lincoln has anybody done what I've done for the Black community." (D3/S4/75)

In segment four, they discuss race in America. Kristen Welker, as the moderator asked about Black Lives Matter. The international activist movement, which started from the African American community, is active in opposing violence and systemic racism against black people. Responding to Black Lives Matter, Joe Biden referred to the former president of America, Abraham Lincoln, by saying that Abraham Lincoln was one of the most racist presidents ever in modern history, where he started his campaign by saying he was going to get rid of the Mexican rapists, he banned Muslims because they were Muslims, he moved around and made everything worse. Donald Trump then responded to Biden's statement by saying that Abraham Lincoln had nothing to do with the Black Lives Matter. However, Biden said that it was Trump who called himself Abraham Lincoln. Then Trump directly denied that he didn't say he was Abraham Lincoln, he said that 'not since Abraham Lincoln has anybody done what I've done for the Black community. 'The data above shows that Trump used 'contradiction,' he used negative particles in the form of 'no' and 'I did not.' He also directly denied Biden's claims.

Moreover, there is one more similarity between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the disagreeing strategies. Both presidential candidates used the type of counterclaim followed by contradiction in one utterance. This type of combination begins with 'counterclaim' at the beginning of the sentence, then followed by 'contradiction' in the next sentence. Counterclaim is included in the indirect disagreement strategy, while 'contradiction' is included in the direct disagreement strategy. The two presidential candidates tended to use

'contradiction' more often than 'counterclaim,' which indicates that they prefer to express their disagreement directly rather than indirectly. So this combination type is rarely used by the two presidential candidates.

# **4.1.2.2** The Differences of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in Applying Disagreeing Strategies

Figure 4.3 shows some of the differences between the two presidential candidates in applying the disagreeing strategies. Almost all numbers of each type are different. Both presidential candidates have the highest number of several types of disagreeing strategies, and there are also several types of disagreeing strategies that are not used by either presidential candidate. This shows a significant difference between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the disagreeing strategies.

There are four types of disagreeing strategies where Joe Biden has the highest number compared to Donald Trump. They are irrelevancy claim, contradiction, counterclaim, and contradiction followed by counterclaim.

Meanwhile, there are five types of disagreeing strategies where Donald Trump has the highest number than Joe Biden. They are challenge, contradiction followed by challenge, challenge followed by counterclaim, and counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. From the explanation above, it shows that Joe Biden does not have a higher number than Donald Trump in applying the type of challenge. Meanwhile, Donald Trump has a higher number than Joe Biden for all combinations of 'challenge.' This shows that the two presidential candidates have significant differences in applying

the type of challenge. Therefore, the researcher explains the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the type of challenge.

In the type of 'challenge', Donald Trump has a total number of 29 and Joe Biden has a total number of 5. Donald Trump used 'challenge' 21 times in the first debate and 8 times in the third debate. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used this type twice in the first debate and 3 times in the third debate. In the type of 'challenge followed by contradiction', Donald Trump used this type 3 times, while Joe Biden only used this type once. From the number of 'challenge' and 'challenge followed of contradiction' of the two presidential candidates above, it shows that compared to Joe Biden, Donald Trump often used 'challenge' and 'challenge followed by contradiction.'

From the number of 'challenge,' it can be seen that Donald Trump and Joe Biden have quite a difference. Challenge is the type used by the speaker to ask for evidence of a claim from the interlocutor, usually marked with a question sentence. Almost all of the types of challenge found by the researcher in the 2020 United States presidential debates are marked with a question sentence, but some are not marked with a question sentence. Donald Trump frequently questioned or asked for evidence of Joe Biden's claims, which indicated that he did not agree with the claims made by Joe Biden. Meanwhile, Joe Biden never used a question sentence in applying the type of challenge. He is more likely to used sentences that show directly that he needs proof of the claims made by Donald Trump.

The next type is 'challenge followed by contradiction'. This type is a combination of challenges and contradiction. Challenge is used at the beginning

of a sentence then followed by 'contradiction' in the next sentence. This type was only found in the third debate. Donald Trump and Joe Biden have a different pattern in applying this type. In applying 'challenge', Donald Trump always used a question sentence. Meanwhile, Joe Biden used a sentence that directly indicated that he needed proof from Donald Trump. This clearly shows the difference between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying the type of challenge. Joe Biden never used question sentences in expressing the type of challenge. For the type of contradiction, both presidential candidates directly denied each other's claims.

#### 4.2 Discussions

In this part, the researcher discusses the result of the findings that adjust to the research objectives. The objectives of this study are types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates and the similarities and the differences of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies. The results of the first finding are about types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates.

The researcher found 10 types of disagreeing strategies in Donald Trump's utterances and 7 types of disagreeing strategies in Joe Biden's utterances. In this study, the researcher found the combinations of types of disagreeing strategies. The results of this present study strengthen the result of a previous study conducted by Suroiya (2017). Her study showed the combination of types of disagreeing strategies that are proposed in Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy

(1998). They are counterclaim followed by contradiction, irrelevancy claim followed by counterclaim, contradiction followed by challenge, counterclaim followed by challenge, challenge followed by counterclaim, and contradiction followed by counterclaim and challenge. In this study, the researcher only found three of the six combination types proposed by Suroiya (2017). Besides, the researcher also found the combinations of types that are different from Suroiya (2017). They are (1) challenge followed by contradiction, (2) counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. The combinations of types of disagreeing strategies found in this study are the new result that can enrich the previous taxonomy. Several previous studies that used Muntigl and Turnbull's (1998) theory (Aini, 2015; Bavarsad et al. 2015; Farashaiyan & Muthusamy, 2016; Heidari et al. 2015; Hibatullah, 2019; Sadremeli & Haghverdi, 2016; Sofwan & Suwignyo, 2011; and Tifani, 2015) did not find the combination of types of disagreeing strategies. Only the study by Suroiya (2017) found the combination of types of disagreeing strategies that are proposed in Muntigl and Turnbull's taxonomy (1998). In this study, the researcher also found the combinations of types of disagreeing strategies that are different from Suroiya (2017).

Figure 4.3 shows several different numbers of the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden. The type of challenge has several types of combinations. They are challenge followed by contradiction, contradiction followed by challenge, challenge followed by counterclaim, and counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. Compared to Joe Biden,

Donald Trump has the highest number of 'challenge' and all combinations of the challenge type. This shows a significant difference between the two presidential candidates in applying the type of challenge.

The similarity between the two presidential candidates is that they mostly used 'contradiction' to show their disagreement. Both presidential candidates often directly denied each other's statements. This may be due to the power factor. Presidential candidates who took part in these debates are Donald Trump from the Republican Party and Joe Biden from the Democratic Party. Republican Party and Democratic Party are the major parties in the United States. Both parties dominate politics in the United States. Donald Trump and Joe Biden have the same power because both of them come from major parties in the United States. Therefore, this equality of power makes it possible for both presidential candidates to directly and frankly disagree with each other's statements. They have the same opportunity to exercise their power, so they can control or hinder one's contribution to others (Fairclough, 2001).

The results of this present study strengthen the result of a previous study conducted by Aini (2015). Her study showed that speakers who have the same level of power are more likely to use the type of contradiction. In her study, there is a percentage of 50% for the type of contradiction used by speakers who have the same level of power. Several previous studies which are conducted by Sadrameli & Haghverdi (2016) and Farashaiyan & Muthusamy (2016) have different results from this study. The study by Sadrameli & Haghverdi (2016) showed that speakers of the same level of power tend to use the type of

counterclaim more often. In their study, there is a percentage of 52.8% for 'counterclaim'. While 'contradiction' is the second highest with a percentage of 25.8%. The results of the study by Farashaiyan & Muthusamy (2016) also show that 'counterclaim' is the type of disagreeing strategy that is most widely used by speakers who have the same power level. In their study, 'counterclaim' had a percentage of 44.8% and 'contradiction' has the second-highest percentage at 18.6%. This shows that the results of the studies by Sadrameli & Haghverdi (2016) and Farashaiyan & Muthusamy (2016) have the same results, where the speakers who have the same level of power more often used 'counterclaim'. These previous studies used students as data sources. Meanwhile, in this study, the researcher used debates as data sources. The results of the studies by Sadrameli & Haghverdi (2016) and Farashaiyan & Muthusamy (2016) showed that students who have the same level of power more often used the type of counterclaim. Meanwhile, the results of this study showed that politicians who have the same level of power more often used the type of counterclaim.

Thus, this study adds a new result in disagreement strategy in the area of power relations. This is in line with previous research which states that if the speaker and the interlocutor have the same level of power, then they tend to use 'contradiction' to refute the claims of their interlocutors. Contradiction is a direct disagreeing strategy used by the speaker when he/she expressing disagreement. This study strengthens the result of the previous study by Aini (2015) which stated that 'contradiction' is most widely used by people with equal power.

#### **CHAPTER VI**

#### CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

This chapter presents the conclusions of the study and also contains suggestions for further research to develop knowledge related to disagreeing strategies.

#### **5.1 Conclusions**

Based on the research findings, there are two points of conclusion from this study. First, the types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump and Joe Biden in the 2020 United States presidential debates. There are 10 types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump with a total of 101 utterances. Meanwhile, Joe Biden only used 7 types of disagreement strategies with a total of 101 utterances. Both presidential candidates have the same total number of utterances. The types of disagreeing strategies used by Donald Trump is (1) irrelevancy claim, (2) challenge, (3) contradiction, (4) counterclaim, (5) contradiction followed by counterclaim, (6) contradiction followed by challenge, (7) counterclaim followed by contradiction, (8) challenge followed by contradiction, (9) challenge followed by counterclaim, and (10) counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction. Of all these types, Joe Biden does not use 'contradiction followed by challenge', 'challenge followed by counterclaim', and 'counterclaim followed by challenge and contradiction'. The types number (8) and (10) are the combination of types found in this study. Meanwhile, the number of the types (6), (7), and (9) already exists in the study by Suroiya (2017). The other 5 types are presented in the taxonomy of Muntigl and Turnbull (1998).

Next, the second, the similarities and the differences between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies. There are two similarities between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies. First, Trump and Biden both have the highest percentage in the type of contradiction. Donald Trump has a percentage of 45% with a total of 46 utterances and Joe Biden has a percentage of 67% with a total of 53 utterances. Donald Trump and Joe Biden have the highest percentage of 'contradiction' compared to other types because they have the same level of power. Contradiction is a type of disagreement strategy where the speaker directly denied the claim or statement of the interlocutor. So, because the two presidential candidates have the same level of power, they dare to directly contradict each other's statements. The second similarity is both presidential candidates have the same percentage in 'counterclaim followed by contradiction'. Donald Trump and Joe Biden both have a 1% percentage for this type. They only used this type once. Trump used it in the first debate, while Biden used it in the third debate.

There is one difference between Donald Trump and Joe Biden in applying disagreeing strategies. Donald Trump and Joe Biden differ in their use of 'challenge'. Trump always has a higher percentage across all the combinations of 'challenge'. Challenge are usually marked by a question sentence or sentence that shows directly that the speaker needs proof of the other person's claim. Donald Trump and Joe Biden have different patterns when using the type of challenge. When using this type, Trump often uses question sentences that indicate he needs evidence. Meanwhile, Joe Biden never used a question sentence when using this

type. He always used sentences that directly show that he needs proof. So, Donald Trump and Joe Biden have a significant difference in using this type of challenge.

## **5.2 Suggestions**

The suggestions presented in this chapter can be used for future researchers who are interested in analyzing disagreeing strategies. The researcher suggests that future researchers can explore the disagreeing strategies that focus on power relations using other disagreement strategy theories, such as the theory of Locher (2004) or Chen (2006). This research analyzed the disagreeing strategies by using political figures as the data source, the researcher hope that further researchers can take a different source. So that the next researcher can explore and develop disagreement strategies in depth from various other sources.

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