

THE USE OF SWEAR WORDS IN “THE END OF THE F*ING
WORLD” TV SERIES**

THESIS



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In communication, sometimes every person may have different expressions between each other. It is because of dissatisfaction, dislike, happiness, or anger which happens when people do a conversation. In this situation, people tend to utter swear words. When someone uses swear words, it may be because they feel stressed, sad, angry, happy, shocked, confused, and want to express their feelings. Jay and Kristin (2008, p. 260) state that “swear a word is an expressive act and it is a useful and effective way to convey the feeling about something or incite strong feelings in someone else, even when it is used outside of their traditional emotions”. So, when the speaker utters swear words, she/he tries to use it to accomplish something, especially, she/he intends to have some intentions for the listener, and hopes the listener is aware of this intention.

There is much research about swear words, the first was done by Wulandari (2017) entitled *The Use of Swear Words in Pewdiepie's Youtube Videos*. This research used a descriptive qualitative method and note-taking as the instruments to get valid data. The object of this research is five videos in Pewdiepie's Youtube channel, which are collected based on the most viewed videos on his Youtube channel. The findings concluded that the researcher finds five types of swear words using Pinker's theory. Those are 14 data of dysphemistic, 38 data of idiomatically, 1 data of abusively, and 24 data of emphatically, 27 data of cathartically.

Second, the research was conducted by Rahmadi (2017) entitled *An Analysis of Swearing Words Used by Characters in Blood Father Movie*. This research used descriptive qualitative research and used theory by Jay. The source

of the data is the script of a movie shot on the Internet, and the researcher was analyzed swearing words by all characters in *Blood Movie*. The researcher found types of swearing words that are 5 stand-alone functions, 4 slot-filler functions, and 4 themes, and also 3 factors that contributed to swearing.

Third, the previous research of swear words was done by Melika, Nejla, and Esma (2018), *An Analysis of Gender Differences in the use of Swear Words on Facebook*. This study looked at how men and women use swear words when posting comments on social media, especially on Facebook. The data were from the Official Facebook Pages of Youtube, 9gag, Nicky Minaj, Eminem, and Miley Cyrus. The results showed that men used more swear words to express aggressiveness and self-confidence, while women used swear words to exaggerate their comments.

Another research about swear words was Sunagob's (2016), *Swear Words among Young Learners: A Case Study of the Elementary Students*. Maria investigated seven findings; these include categories, variations, locations, situational instances, emotions, toning down strategies, and contributors. Then, Rullyanti and Devita (2017), conducted *Swear Words Used in Detected Movie Viewed by Speech Act Theory*. This study examines the swear words using the speech act theory in the *Accepted* movie by Steve Pink. This study found that there are seven kinds of swear words in *Accepted* movies and concluded that a variety of expressions are related to their identity as free expression speakers.

Despite the previous studies dealing with swear words analysis with the focus study on using movie, video, elementary students, and comment on social media, none has been done by analyzing the swear words in TV Series as the main focus with Wardhaugh's (1986) theory, and the reactions of interlocutors on the use of swear words with Fagersten's (2012) theory. This present study is designed to find the types and reactions of swear words dominated at *The End of the F***ing World* TV series using the Wardhaugh (1986) theory and to find possible reactions from the interlocutor.

This study covers how the reaction of the interlocutors when they respond to someone who speaks swear words. Wardhaugh's (1986) theory is chosen because the characteristics of swear words are suitable for the main characters, James and Alyssa at *The End of the F***ing World* TV Series. This is proven because this research results show that all the types of swear words are in this TV Series. The types of Wardhaugh theory are death term, animal term, body function term, excretion term, sex term, and religious matter term. Furthermore, for the reactions of an interlocutor, this research uses the theory from Fagersten (2012) which is never been used in the analyzing reactions. There are five listeners' reactions to swear words that are no noticeable reaction, laughter, echo, self-echoic swearing behavior, and rejection. Also, all the reactions from Fagersten's (2012) theory that exist in this TV series.

By analyzing swear words from the main characters, it gives results about what types of swear words dominated and how someone will respond or reacts to swear words. Swearing is a natural way of expressing language in the human

2.3 Sociopragmatic

In social interactions, people use language differently in different situations. Even if they are talking about the same topic, they use different languages between different dialogue partners. For example, when someone does self-introduction in the classroom in front of classmates and teachers, that person will use formal language and a polite tone. But it is different if that person introduces himself to friends outside of class, then that person will tend to use informal language and a more relaxed tone or more excited.

The way people use language is affected by certain factors. In the conversational analysis, not only knowledge is needed to understand the meaning of the speaker's words in the conversation. Moreover, knowledge is about understanding the various aspects that affect the way people use a particular language style. In order to observe the form and meaning of language, pragmatics is the correct way to use it. However, when there are differences in social conditions, social class and culture will affect people's language use. Therefore, sociolinguistics should also be used. Additionally, Holmes (cited in Permadi, 2017, p. 8) states "swear words have different functions when they are performed in different social contexts". People can express annoyance, aggression, and insult, or may also express solidarity and friendliness.

According to Yule (2006, p. 3) "pragmatics is the study of speaker's meaning". Meanwhile, according to Wardaugh (2006, p. 13), "sociolinguistics is a study which concerns with analyzing the relationships between language and society to understand the structure of language and how language functions in

Table 4.1.1: Frequencies the Types of Swear Words

Types of Swear Words	Quantity	%
Excretion	25	27%
Death Term	1	1%
Body Function	11	12%
Religious Matter	3	3%
Mother In Law	1	1%
Sex Term	49	53%
Animal Term	3	3%
Total	93	100%

From the table above, it can be seen that there are seven types of swear words. Those are excretion term employs 25 data or 27% represented by word “sh*t” only, death term employ only 1 data or 1% represented by word “he*I”, body function term employs 11 data or 12% represented by word “cu*t”, “pr*ck”, “sh*thole”, “di*kheads”, and “di*k”. The religious matter employs 3 data or 3% represented by “holy sh*t”, “God’s sake”, and “Jesus”. The mother in law employ 1 data or 1% which represented by the phrase “st*pid bi*ch”, sex term employs 49 data or 53% represented by “fu*k”, “fu*king”, “fu*k off”, and “fu*ked up”. The last is animal term employs 3 data or 3% which represented by “bu*lsh*t”, and cowsh*t”. The example of each type of swear words are explained in the following section:

furthermore contribute to establishing solidarity among the participants”. It is related to this case that the speaker and the listener have a close relationship. On the other hand, they utter spontaneous swearing to convey approval and support of the swearing behavior.

Self-echoic swearing occurred 2 times at *The End of the F***ing World* TV Series. Self-echoic is a reaction of interlocutors when they are trying to self-defense themselves by swearing back. In datum 11, Topher gets mad and utters more than one swear word in one sentence. In datum 20, Leslie was emotional with Alyssa’s curse and tried to defend himself. Leslie also utters two swear words in one speaking turn harshly. According to Fagersten (2012, p. 121) “in addition to being self-reinforcing, self-echoic swearing behavior is self-ratifying, a blatant expression of the speakers’ confidence in the appropriateness of swearing in the social context in which they find themselves”. It means that people are accustomed to swearing confidently when defending themselves. It is related to the two data above, that the listeners try to defend themselves with utter swearing more than one word in one speaking turn with powerful emotion.

Comparing with some previous studies, Melika et al. (2018) found that men and women are more likely to swear when commenting on content produced by the same gender. Then, Wulandari (2017) found that the most type of swear word is SW2 (categorizes as emphatic and idiomatic swearing). This type has means that the speaker utters swear words merely to express the feeling towards other people without offending someone’s pride. In Pewdiepie’s videos appears that the word “fu*k” indicates that Pewds uses this to make it casual and more like

a joke so that the audience does not perceive it as a negative expression. It contrasts with Rahmadi (2017) found that the result shows that most swearing types are the expression of anger, insult, dislike, frustration, and surprise. Swearing as the expression of sadness is not found in this study. Also, Rullyanti et al. (2017) have the result that the dominant kind of speech act in the swear words that the characters use is expressive because Americans and British get used to express their feelings spontaneously.

The result of the present study agrees with Rahmadi (2017) and Rullyanti et al. (2017). It is because Alyssa and James which the main characters utter swearing to express their anger, frustration, and insult, other people. Also, the main characters utter swear words especially the word “fu*k” to express anger, insult, and frustration. Alyssa is a more dominant character who utter swear words and more powerful than old characters in their society. She does not hesitate to say “fu*k”, “sh*t”, and other swear words in front of other people whether older or younger.

Then, this present study also agrees with Sunagob (2016). Sunagob (2016) concluded that the participants studied were constantly trying to present their best image by keeping their faces, pure, and free from vulgar and harsh words that much harmed their uprightness. It is related to this present study about the reactions of the interlocutors. No noticeable reaction has a high percentage with 25 data. It means that the interlocutors try to keep their expressions when hearing swearing. No noticeable reaction in this TV Series has the interlocutors include Alyssa (young woman, and James (young man). Alyssa and James are students.

to swear, but to express their other emotions and feelings in different situations. This TV Series has a setting that is related to mischief and crime. So, the main characters of *The End of the f***ing World* have been accustomed to using swearing expressions in their daily conversation. The effect of the interlocutor is also influenced by the sociopragmatics context. Intimacy, cause, tone, and timing affect how the interlocutor responds when hearing swear words. The Wardhaugh (1986) theory is suitable because all the types of swear words exist in this TV Series. This is also for the reactions of interlocutors, all the possible reactions from Fagersten's (2012) theory exists at *The End of the Fu***ing World* TV Series.

5.2 Suggestions

Linguistics students should understand that linguistic analysis is not only about language features. This means that they must learn a deeper aspect of language. It is hoped that this research can provide references for linguistics students to increase their understanding of language phenomena in society. The focus of this research is to analyze the types of swear words and the influence of Fagersten's (2012) interlocutors based on the theory of Wardhaugh (1986). Therefore, it is recommended that other researchers conduct research related to these issues and provide further explanations for the existing issues analyzed.

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