

**REPAIR STRATEGIES IN THE OPRAH'S PODCAST:
FOCUS ON GENDER DIFFERENCES**

THESIS



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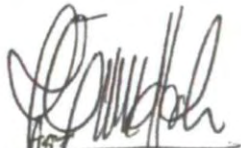
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Penulis

(Fitrari Ramadhani Salsabila Putri)

According to Liddicoat (2011, p. 172), repair is one of the mechanisms in talk, which has a definition, a method managing the difficulties that emerge in talk. Conforming with Paltridge (2006), the repair is how a speaker or hearer corrects the utterance that the speaker or someone else has said and ensures what they have understood in a conversation. A repair strategy is a mechanism to fix the speaker's trouble when s/he makes error words. There are four types of repair strategies, and those are self-initiated self-repair, self-initiated other-repair, other-initiated self-repair, and other-initiated other-repair.

Noticing repair strategies is a fascinating method to straighten the wrong utterances by correcting the error words. The researcher found several previous studies that used repair strategies to become the topic in many kinds of data. Some studies conducted repair strategies in the talk show (e.g. Baity 2019; Rahayu, 2016; Rheisa, 2014), they found self-initiated self-repair became the highest result that occurs in repair strategies. In comparison, Hidayah (2015) researched the types and functions of repair in the movie script and found 4 types, those are self-initiated self-repair, self-initiated other-repair, other-initiated self-repair, and other-initiated other-repair. She also found 7 function of repair strategies, these are to ask, clarified, replaced, suggest, assert, explain, and convince. Meredith and Stokoe (2013) investigated repair focusing on self-initiated self-repair and self-correction, comparing Facebook chat and direct utterance. Al-Harashseh (2015) and Hosoda (2000) also examined the repair used in university students, but both studies' focus was different. Al-Harashseh (2015) focused on self-initiated repair and it found 20 self-initiated repair structure. Hosoda (2000) concentrated on

his podcast's goal can light, guide, and help the audiences answer the big question and bring the audiences to the best life. Behind the encouraging goal, there is an inspiring person, Oprah Winfrey. Oprah is the first African-American woman that owns a production company named Harpo Productions. She is also trying her best to abolish child abuse. Conforming to the website of National Women's Hall of Fame (n.d., para. 2), Oprah has a significant impact on the planning, lobbying, and passage of the National Child Protection Act in America, which President Clinton signed in 1994. Besides that, Oprah is also a philanthropist, and she is running The Oprah Winfrey Foundation and The Oprah Winfrey Operating Foundation. Through her charm, she must connect to the other inspiring people who will or are invited to her interviews, which aligns with the podcast's goal. So, it makes the researcher excited to research using Oprah's podcast. This podcast can listen to digital platforms such as Spotify, Apple Podcast, YouTube, and other platforms. The researcher chooses Spotify and YouTube to listen to the podcast because it can be downloaded on many gadgets such as mobile phones and laptops. So, it makes the researcher easier to listen to the podcast.

Since many episodes in Oprah's SuperSoul Conversations already aired, the researcher sorted four episodes of it that become this research data. The researcher will choose two interviews with female participants, entitled Oprah and Lady Gaga: Your Life in Focus and Melinda Gates: The Moment of Lift. In comparison, the titles for the interviews with male participants are Oprah and Dwayne Johnson: Your Life in Focus and Bob Iger: The Moment of Lift. The researcher chooses these 4 of the episodes because it has interesting topic, also it

has two ways conversation or it can be called interview. The interview itself means the way of having communication between the interviewer and the interviewee. The host seeks information from the participants. So, there will be many question and answer sessions that make an active conversation. Active conversation means both parties engaging with each other by what they are talking about, in which the host and participants will pay attention to one another. When one of them is making error words, the interlocutor will help repair the error words if the speaker cannot repair it by themselves. Moreover, this is where the repair strategies often occur. Besides, all of the episodes inspire and give life lessons by sharing their success or life story. Every person has their struggles and ways to get out of that. It can be helpful for the audiences because they can get many insights from the guests or Oprah herself. The audiences also can look at a problem from different perspectives when listening to Oprah's podcast.

Nowadays, a podcast is one of the attractive media because everyone can make or listen to it. Therefore, some researchers had already investigated the podcast as their data, and most of them focused on new learning media in the education system (Evans, 2007; Hasan & Hoon, 2013; Jham, Duraes, Strassler, & Sensi, 2008).

The earlier studies of podcasts concentrated on the effectiveness of learning strategies in education. This present study focuses on analyzing podcasts in linguistic scope by using the conversation analysis approach and concentrating on the repair strategies that used repair strategies theory by Schelgoff, Jefferson, and Sack (1977). Besides that, the two prior studies (Chalak & Karimi, 2017;

without a clue by anyone. It usually occurs in the same turn as the trouble-source. It means that all of the participants are aware of what they say. The participants do not want to make the interlocutor and the audiences misinterpret what they say. Because the participants know their role, their names are already big, and they have to be responsible for what they state.

While the most infrequent types of repair strategies that occur in four episodes of Oprah's podcast is other-initiate self-repair, this type usually occurred in the third turn. In other words, according to Liddicoat (2011), the interlocutor is a person who notices the problem and gives a clue to the speaker, then the speaker resolves the problem. This type rarely occurs because the interlocutor may not know the exact context of the speaker in the past. So, when the speaker tries to explain in words, the interlocutor tries to listen to what the speaker wants to say. Unless the speaker shows the talk by giving a long pause or repeating words, the interlocutor will indicate the problems and give a clue.

Aside from the types of repair used by the participants, the researcher found differences in using repair strategies among female and male participants. Moreover, it becomes the primary purpose to answer the last research problem. The linguistic behavior among female and male are different. According to White (2003, p. 1), male is often assumed as a dominant speaker during the communication process, while the female is placed in a subordinate role. According to Holmes (cited in Aini, 2016, pp. 10-11), society expects women to speak perfectly and commonly than men, particularly when they become children role models. Because some of the society still sees women from their Language,

women should be able to speak as perfectly as possible. And these social standards lead to the inferiority that women have. As shown in the finding, the SI-SR type that female participants used is 1.5 lower than male participants. It shows that women are trying to talk perfectly so that society will hear their opinion. Moreover, Women tend to arrange the words they want to utter because as Lakoff (cited in Holmes, 2013, p. 301) said, the women's Language will strengthen their subordinate status. According to Trudgill (cited on Jinyu, 2014, p. 93), the other reason women are trying to speak perfectly because women pay more attention to their social status than men. Besides, female participants tend to use SI-SR because they want to talk lady-like, so they cover up their uncertainty by changing the pronoun or talk more politely. The other types of repair strategies are having small numbers, which indicate that women tend to feel inferior because they do not want to interrupt other people.

Unlike women, society is often thought men as alpha or dominants, either in conversation or other things. Moreover, in the conversation, men tend to value their independence (Merchant, 2012, p. 17). It means that when men are having a conversation with someone, they do not rely upon the interlocutor, either their opinion or the way they talk. Through that statement, this research's result is not entirely surprising when SI-SR becomes the highest type of repair that appears in male participants. Because when male participants make the problem in a talk, they try to resolve it by themselves. Besides, male participants tend to use SI-SR because they want to show their power ability by adding some information. On

women make women tend to feel inferior to men. When they feel uncertain about what they said, they tend to recognize it first and have initiated to resolve the problem. Thus, that is the reason why self-initiated became the highest result in female participants. At the same time, this research's result shows that men tend to use self-initiated self-repair. Men presume that through conversation, they can show their power (White, 2003). It means men do not want to depend on the interlocutor, either their opinion or how they talk. In other words, when men rely upon the interlocutor continuously, the audience assumes that the male participants do not have certainty with what they said. Also, sometimes male participants add unnecessary information in the middle of the interview.

The researcher concludes that self-initiate self-repair become the highest type of repair that used among female and male participants. Besides, the main reason of the different repair strategies used among females and males is the different language characteristics. The female participants tend to feel inferior and try to cover it using repair strategies, especially self-initiated self-repair. In comparison, male participants tend to use repair strategies, especially self-initiated self-repair because they want to show their power through the conversation and add unnecessary information. However, because of the data limitation, this research's result cannot be generalized to all of the Oprah's interview. Because repair strategy is one of the conversation mechanisms for dealing with the sort of difficulties which occurs spontaneously in talk (Liddicoat, 2011). Thus, the type of repair strategies that might occur can be different from each participant.

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