

**POLITENESS STRATEGIES USED BY THE CHARACTERS  
IN THE MOVIE *GIRL IN THE BASEMENT***

**THESIS**



UIN SUNAN AMPEL  
S U R A B A Y A

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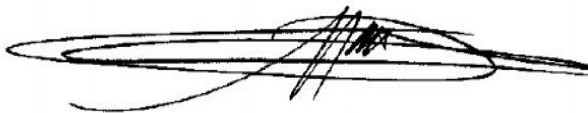
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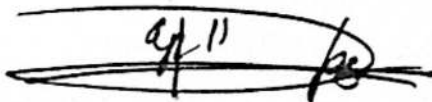
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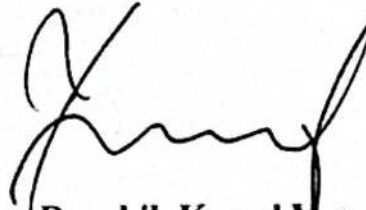
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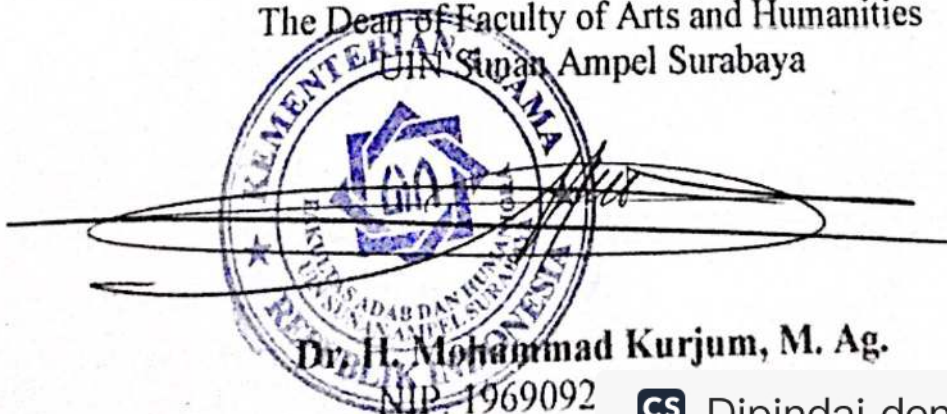
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## ABSTRACT

Rahmadita, M. K. A03219027. (2023). *Politeness Strategies Used by the Characters in the Movie Girl in the Basement*. Thesis: English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, State Islamic University Sunan Ampel, Surabaya. Thesis Advisors: Dr. H. Mohammad Kurjum, M. Ag. and Raudlotul Jannah, M. App. Ling.

Keywords: Politeness Strategies, Movie *Girl in the Basement*.

This study aims to analyze the politeness strategies contained in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. This movie tells a story of a girl who was locked up and tortured by her father in the basement for years without anyone knowing and the phenomenon of decency occurs in this movie. There are two problems to be solved in this study, namely: (1) What are the types of politeness strategies used by the characters in the movie *Girl in the Basement* and (2) Why did the characters use that politeness strategy.

This thesis employs a qualitative approach in its use of concise and methodical descriptions of the phenomena under study. This study used a descriptive study approach to textual analysis to examine utterances' characters in a script of the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The data were collected by first transcribing the movie. Then, the transcription was analyzed by identifying the types of politeness strategies by applying abbreviation codes to the relevant passages of utterance. The analysis was furthered by identifying the politeness strategies used by the characters in the movie. Lastly, the purposes of the characters used that strategy is identified by observing the conversation's context.

The results of the study show that all politeness strategies (Bald on record, Positive politeness, Negative politeness, and Bald off record) have been used in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The researcher found that of all existing politeness strategies, Sarah (a girl who was tortured by her father in the basement) tends to use positive politeness strategies. She uses this strategy to maintain good relations between herself, her father, and her children. She also hopes that this strategy can make the father and her children feel comfortable so that they are not tortured by their father and peace can be achieved. Meanwhile, Marie and Michael (Sarah's children) emphasized the use of positive politeness strategies to maintain good relations and solidarity with their parents and sibling.

## ABSTRAK

Rahmadita, M. K. A03219027. (2023). *Politeness Strategies Used by the Characters in the Movie Girl in the Basement*. Thesis: English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, State Islamic University Sunan Ampel, Surabaya. Thesis Advisors: Dr. H. Mohammad Kurjum, M. Ag. and Raudlotul Jannah, M. App. Ling.

**Kata Kunci:** Strategi Kesopanan, Film *Girl in the Basement*.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menganalisis strategi kesantunan yang terkandung dalam film *Girl in the Basement*. Film ini bercerita tentang seorang gadis yang dikurung dan disiksa oleh ayahnya di ruang bawah tanah selama bertahun-tahun tanpa ada yang tahu dan fenomena kesopanan terjadi di film ini. Ada dua masalah yang akan dipecahkan dalam penelitian ini, yaitu: (1) Apa jenis strategi kesopanan yang digunakan oleh karakter dalam film *Girl in the Basement* dan (2) Mengapa karakter menggunakan strategi kesopanan tersebut.

Skripsi ini menggunakan pendekatan kualitatif dalam penggunaan deskripsi singkat dan metodis dari fenomena yang diteliti. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan studi deskriptif analisis tekstual untuk mengkaji karakter ujaran dalam naskah film *Girl in the Basement*. Data dikumpulkan dengan terlebih dahulu menyalin film. Kemudian, transkripsi dianalisis dengan mengidentifikasi jenis strategi kesantunan dengan menerapkan kode singkatan pada bagian ucapan yang relevan. Analisis dilanjutkan dengan mengidentifikasi strategi kesopanan yang digunakan oleh karakter dalam film. Terakhir, tujuan dari karakter yang menggunakan strategi tersebut diidentifikasi dengan mengamati konteks percakapan.

Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa semua strategi kesantunan (Bald on record, Positive politeness, Negative politeness, dan Bald off record) telah digunakan dalam film *Girl in the Basement*. Peneliti menemukan bahwa dari semua strategi kesantunan yang ada, Sarah (anak perempuan yang disiksa ayahnya di ruang bawah tanah) cenderung menggunakan strategi kesantunan positif. Dia menggunakan strategi ini untuk menjaga hubungan baik antara dirinya, ayahnya, dan anak-anaknya. Ia pun berharap strategi ini dapat membuat ayah dan anak-anaknya merasa nyaman sehingga tidak disiksa oleh ayah dan kedamaian dapat tercapai. Sementara itu, Marie dan Michael (anak Sarah) menekankan penggunaan strategi kesopanan positif untuk menjaga hubungan baik dan solidaritas dengan orang tua dan saudara mereka.

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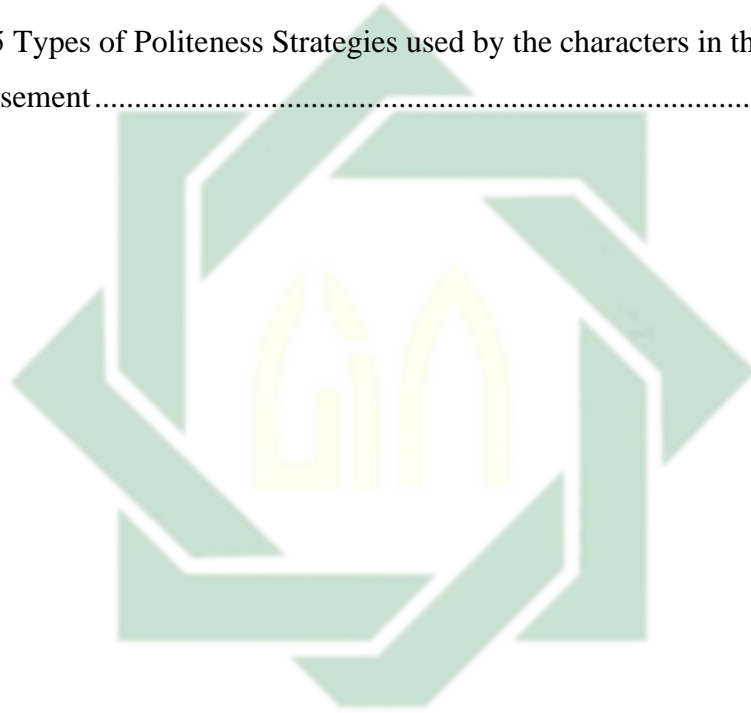


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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This chapter consists of five points: background of the study, problems of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of the study, and definition of key terms.

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

A movie is a form of art created in industry and produced by recording objects in the form of creatures or environments from the real world using a camera. Not only that, technology that is developing rapidly gives rise to new ideas in making movies in the form of unreal objects, such as animation or special effects. In addition to displaying images and videos, a movie also produces a sound so that the audience can enjoy them to the fullest. A movie is one of the most popular entertainment media for people from all walks of life. A movie has a complex display in the form of audio-visual displays that make movies interesting entertainment. The important reason that attracts researcher to study a movie more in this research is the movie presents a story that reflects a situation or phenomenon in everyday life. The stories presented are in the form of the author's imagination, some are even inspired by events in the real world. Creative people in this industry can continue to realize their story ideas in the form of a movie.

A movie is not only a medium of entertainment but also a medium to convey information. This information has conveyed through the verbal communication of the characters in the movie who take part in the story. Speaker and hearer establish a relationship using verbal communication. However, in



verbal communication, each individual must pay attention to politeness towards hearer. Politeness is one of the important aspects of language to create good communication between speaker and hearer. In addition, politeness is also needed in establishing communication relationships so as not to cause misunderstandings that can trigger problems. So, to build this relationship, each individual must have a strategy. One of these strategies is the politeness strategy. This is the reason why the researcher chose politeness strategies as the topic in this study. This is in accordance with Holmes's statement (cited in Wijayanti, 2019, p.2) that the importance of politeness strategy in communication may be found not just in real life, but also in movies. Apart from being relevant to the selected data, the topic of politeness is also one of the branches of pragmatics which is the main essential factor in how to establish good relationships through the utterances. Not only that, this is the researcher's background to find out how politeness strategies are used by the utterances of the characters in the movie.

Brown & Levinson (1987, p.61) explain the reason why people prefer to be polite to keep two distinct faces, namely a positive face that is extremely necessary to be appreciated by hearer and a negative face that shows a wish to be free to act as wanted. This statement is shortened by Mega, S., Laeni, M. (2016, p.21) stating that in the lives of developing better communication between speaker and hearer, courtesy is a vital feature. This is the following statement of Fauzi, M. I. (2010, p.1), politeness is defined that being courteous in conversation and is critical for establishing one's relationship with people, so everyone should be aware of this when engaging in the excellent conversation since language can

represent conduct or attitude. From some of the statements above, the researcher can conclude that politeness is an act that shows a respectful to others. On the other hand, Ayuningrum, A., Rosnasari, & Syafrizal (2018, p.2) state that the politeness strategy is a strategy used by the speaker in which he must pay attention the hearer's sentiments when stating anything. Brown & Levinson (1987, p.61) in other words suggest that politeness strategies are just a 'face'. This is briefly explained by Selfia, M., Marlina, L. (2016, p.20) that politeness strategies are carried out to minimize FTA or Face-Threatening Actions. It can conclude that a politeness strategy is a way that a person must do to convey something in a polite speech act.

Many studies on politeness strategies (Meiratnasari and Wijayanto, 2019; Sapitri et al., 2019; Ayuningrum and Rosnasari, 2018; Selfia and Marlina, 2016; Safitri et al., 2015; Archia, 2014; Krisnoni, 2013; Fauzi, 2010) have focused on the types of politeness strategy. However, few researchers on function of politeness strategies are available (Rizki, 2020; Supriyanta and Ghozali, 2017). In Rizky (2020)'s study, the data were collected from movie *Ratatouille* where politeness strategy is used by the characters to know the impact obtained when they used the strategy well. Meanwhile, Supriyanta and Ghozali (2017) conducted politeness strategy research in movie *The Next Door* where politeness strategy is used by Claire Peterson to maintain and build good relationship with others in daily life.

In addition to focused on kind of politeness strategy, these studies (Hartati, 2021; Wijayanti, 2019; Mustiari et al., 2017; Sari, 2013) have also

concentrated on factor that influence politeness strategy. Rather than focused on factor influence politeness strategy, Yunianti (2021)'s study has tended to focus on cooperative principle by Grice (1975). She used movie *Gravity* as the data source. This study showed that along with using politeness strategy, cooperation between the speaker and hearer is another quality that defines a successful conversation. People who are conversing are typically believed to be truthful and sharing essential information. It requires four maxims: the maxim of quality (truthfulness), quantity (amount of information), relation (revant), and manner (avoid obscurity) in order to make good condition. According to this study's application of the cooperative principle, the characters are well acquainted and have been cooperating for a very long time.

Based on those previous studies, there were several subjects dealing with politeness strategies. The researcher then watched a movie entitled *Girl in the Basement* has the characters that used politeness strategies to achieve a purpose. By analyzing the types of politeness strategies they used and their purposes for using those strategies, the researcher can find whether they can achieve their goals or not when using politeness strategies.

*Girl in the Basement* is an American crime movie. This movie is based on the true story of a young woman from Austria held captive in the basement by her father. For 24 years, she was also sexually abused and gave birth to children. The reason of the researcher chose the movie entitled *Girl in the Basement* because the movie represents common problems that often occur in everyday life, especially in married life. This movie reveals situations that have occurred in the

past where the characters, places, and plots in this movie have existed in the real life. The characters in this movie consisting of a father named Don, a mother named Irene, and two daughters named Amy and Sarah, Sarah's boyfriend named Chris, Sarah's daughter named Marie, and Sarah's son named Michael. In movie research that uses a politeness strategy, the researcher assumes that this movie fits the required data.

This movie contains a story about household problems involving verbal communication between parents and daughters. Several conversation scenes are considered to show the politeness strategies shown by each character through verbal communication, such as their words. Brown & Levinson (1987, p.61) once revealed that strategic politeness is just a 'face' that someone wants to show when interacting with other people. In other words, this opinion can be concluded that when someone implements this strategy it means they have hidden intentions or reasons. This is the reason why the researcher presents this research as a politeness strategy. In the movie *Girl in the Basement*, Sarah and her children are held captive by Don in the basement. They realized that there was no point in being polite to those who had tortured them, but at that time they were under Don's rule and no one else could save them. Therefore, this study revealed the types of politeness strategies used by Sarah and her children in the movie *Girl in the Basement* and their purpose of using it. The researcher used the theory of politeness strategy by Brown & Levinson (1987). The researcher explored this theory further on some of Sarah and her children's verbal communication in a



movie, such as utterances related to the types of politeness strategies and their purpose of using it.

Based on the explanation above, the researcher intended to study the verbal communication of Sarah and her children in the movie entitled *Girl in the Basement* through the use of pragmatic analysis by using the theory of Brown & Levinson (1987).

### **1.2 Problems of the Study**

1. What are the types of politeness strategies used by the characters in the movie *Girl in the Basement*?
2. Why did the characters use that politeness strategy?

### **1.3 Significance of the Study**

This research is expected to convey and explain the types of politeness strategies and their purpose of using it based on verbal communication of Sarah and her children named Marie and Michael in the movie entitled *Girl in the Basement*. From these results, the researcher expects this research to be an addition to previous research regarding the analysis of politeness strategies based on verbal communications. The results are expected to help readers to know how to determine the types politeness strategy and their purposes of using it.

Hopefully, this research can be useful in developing a pragmatics study whose focus is the politeness strategies.

### **1.4 Scope and Limitation**

This study only used a movie *Girl in the Basement* as the research data. The researcher limited the research subject to the characters who play an important role as victims in the plot of the story, namely Sarah as a young daughter of parents Don and Irene, Marie as a Sarah and Don's daughter, and Michael as a Sarah and Don's son. The researcher studied all verbal communication used by those characters in the movie. In determining the types of politeness strategies, the researcher only used four types of politeness strategies to analyze the politeness strategy based on the Brown & Levinson (1987) theory. Those are Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Bald off Record. Therefore, the researcher studied politeness strategies that focus on the utterances of the characters in the movie to analyze the types of politeness strategy and also determine their purposes of using it.

### **1.5 Definition of Key Terms**

- a. Verbal communication is a way of communicating directly through utterances to convey messages to others.
- b. Politeness is a behavior or speech that shows respect for others.
- c. Politeness strategy is a communication strategy that is used by someone to minimize actions that are unpleasant or offensive to others. This strategy was put forward by Brown and Levinson (1987) in the form of using polite words.
- d. *Girl in the Basement* is a movie title directed by Elizabeth Rohm in 2021 based on the true story of Elizabeth Fritzl who was tortured and imprisoned by her father in their Austrian home's basement. This movie tells a story of Sarah

(Stefanie Scott), an 18-year-old girl who was locked up and abused by her father for years without anyone knowing.



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## CHAPTER II

### REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

This chapter includes some relevant theories that can be used to solve the issues of this study. In this chapter, the researcher gives related theories covering pragmatics, verbal and non-verbal communication, Brown & Levinson's theory, and movie *Girl in the Basement*.

#### 2.1 Theoretical Framework

##### 2.1.1 Verbal Communication

There are many ways people communicate in everyday life with other people. One of them is verbal communication. Verbal communication is communication used words and expressed orally or in writing. Verbal communication is expressed verbally when the speaker expresses his idea to the hearer orally, such as when the speaker and hearer chat face to face or via telephone communication media. Meanwhile written communication is when the speaker conveys his intent or idea through written media, such as letters, memos, pictures, etc.

This is in line with Megawati's statement (2020, p.437) in her research that verbal communication is about speaking. What is meant by speaking is when someone conveys his intentions or ideas, the hearer understands what the speaker has said. This statement is supported by Nibella's statement (2014, p.16) in her research that verbal communication symbols are in the form of language or words that convey messages to hearer, such as in a conversation or discussion.



On the other hand, Vogel (2018, p.3) in his journal states that there are several elements of verbal communication, namely the use of appropriate language, maintaining the flow of the conversation, then summarizing what the speaker has said. When communicating verbally, the speaker must use appropriate language to avoid misunderstandings. Furthermore, in a conversation, the flow must be maintained so as not to get off the topic of conversation and focus on the things being discussed. Then, the hearer summarizes the main points that have been conveyed by the speaker. That way, verbal communication is very beneficial between speaker and hearer because it runs effectively.

From the statements above, the researcher can conclude that verbal communication occurs when the speaker conveys his ideas directly to the hearer using words or writing.

### **2.1.2 Politeness**

As social beings, humans must behave politely with anyone, anywhere, and anytime. Politeness can be defined as a behavior or speech that shows respect for others. Politeness is an important aspect of communication, whether we are talking to older, equal or younger people. Polite speech shows our identity as humans who respect each other, and we can also maintain harmonious communication between the speaker and hearer. In other words, when we convey our intentions, ideas or goals to hearer in a respectful way where the aim is not to attack or coerce.

Yule (1996, p.60) states that politeness is a concept of polite social behavior in a certain culture that may be demonstrated by displaying excellent

manners toward others. Polite behavior is a way of interacting with others to achieve certain goals. This is explained further by Brown and Levinson developed the theory of politeness. Brown and Levinson developed a theory of politeness to explain the general phenomenon of the interaction of people who are concerned about their public self-image in verbal communication. The public self-image in question is 'face'.

### **2.1.2.1 Face**

There are three basic ideas in Brown and Levinson's politeness theory. There is face, Face Threatening Act (FTA), and politeness strategies. The first one is face. According to Brown & Levinson (1987, p.61), the face is something that must be recognized and respected in interaction. Brown and Levinson introduced 'face' idea to describe politeness in the broadest sense. Brown and Levinson (1987, p.63) mentioned Goffman's published article On Face Work that a 'face' is a mask that can change according to circumstances when interacting socially. This is related to the way a person shows that social interaction influences the whole self-identity. 'Face' refers to the respect that the speaker has to maintain self-respect in private as well as public situations. Everyone who interacts has a specific intention to provide two types of 'face' namely positive face and negative face.

A positive face is a consistent image a person has of himself and a desire to be acknowledged. The positive face expresses positive politeness in two ways namely showing similarities with hearer or expressing an appreciation for hearer. Meanwhile, a negative face is a picture of someone as a form of self-

protection and has the right not to be disturbed. The negative face expresses negative politeness in two ways namely saving hearer such as giving advice or showing respect to hearer.

### **2.1.2.2 Face Threatening Act (FTA)**

Brown and Levinson (1987, p.65) explain the concept that mentioned face is universal in nature, so it stands to reason that varied statements often translate into unpleasant behaviors known as Face-Threatening Acts or FTA. That means, positive face and negative face can be affected by the action of FTA. FTA (Face-Threatening Acts) is the form of actions that go against the intentions of the speaker's and the hearer's face. Thus, one must have a strategy to reduce FTA actions. Through verbal communication, one can use politeness strategies to avoid FTA.

### **2.1.3 Politeness Strategies**

Politeness strategy is a strategy that is used by someone when talk to others to minimize actions that are unpleasant or offensive to others. This strategy was in the form of using polite words. Brown and Levison (1987, p.61) states that the politeness strategy is just about the face as a public image that each member wishes to own for himself. The term 'face' describes a person's ability to maintain "self-esteem" in both private and public settings. The speaker is typically attempting to prevent embarrassment or discomfort from others in this situation. It means that politeness strategy is a method used by someone when conveying verbal in order to build a good communication.

Politeness strategy is possible at a social distance, such as in formal situations where the speaker must talk more respectfully to the hearer. The way a speaker uses language to share his ideas to a hearer determines how polite they are. In verbal communication, if someone's language usage differs from social and cultural norms, he will be perceived negatively, for instance as selfish. Those statements are supported by Mujiono's statement in his research (2015, pp.94-95) that humans must manage appropriate politeness strategies when talking to others so that they are effective and there are no misunderstandings. When choosing politeness strategies, be careful to set yourself up or avoid speaking in a harsh accent.

In Rosari's (2017, p.21) journal stated that right language users work to get wise behavior to reduce aggressive activities or need to be softened. That way, the researcher knows that the politeness strategy is a strategy used by the speaker in which he must pay attention to the sentiments of the hearer when he says anything. From these statements, the researcher concludes that the purpose of determining appropriate politeness strategies is to control oneself, avoid talking that offends others, and we can communicate with others effectively. Furthermore, Brown and Levinson (1987) distinguish four types of politeness strategies: Bald On-Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Bald Off-Record.

### **2.1.3.1 Bald On-Record**

Bald on record can be defined as one who addresses the other directly to express their wants, typically using imperative forms. This strategy does not

attempt to reduce hazards to the hearer's face. Then, anything including a request, such as *I need money, please lend it to me*, or a direct *No, I won't*, is regarded as being bald on strategy. According to Brown and Levinson (1987, pp.94-97), when the speaker is ready to conduct an FTA, bald on-record is employed. This strategy can be used when the speaker speaks anything in public due to a crisis, such as an emergency. Brown and Levinson (1987, p.95) also described cases in which one may use a bald on-record strategies are below:

### **1. The necessity of urgency**

This strategy is used when someone sees others in an urgent condition, he must be given a warning immediately.

For example: *Get out of the way, Sir! Oh my God.*

This sentence is used by a speaker utters when seeing someone is crossing the road and the speaker shouts to pull over immediately so they don't get hit by a car. It shows the character of politeness strategy Bald on record about the necessity of urgency. The speaker uses this strategy because when he sees someone will get hit by a car, he wants to the hearer go away quickly and saves him.

### **2. Attract the attention**

This strategy is used when someone wants others' attention.

For example: *Hei, Listen to me!*

This expression is used by a speaker when the speaker and hearer are arguing about something. He wanted to explain the truth of an issue they were debating. The speaker used the politeness strategy Bald on record about

attracting the attention of hearer because he wants the hearer to pay attention to what the speaker is going to say, he wants to say something that is important for the hearer to know.

**3. Metaphorical urgency including the orders, entreaties, task-oriented, or give the instructions.**

This strategy is used when a speaker wants to order, entreaties, task-oriented, or give the instructions to others.

For example: *Close the door, please.*

This utterance shows that a speaker utters when he sees someone who has just entered an AC room, then the speaker directly orders him. The speaker uses this strategy because he wants the hearer to do something directly according to the speaker's want or need.

**4. Comforting advice**

This strategy is used when a speaker shows the hearer that he cares for them and allowing them on record of comforting advice.

For example: *If somebody hurts you, be brave and be kind.*

This utterance shows when a mother sees her child is sad. She tried to understand her daughter's feelings and then advised that sentence. The speaker uses this strategy because she doesn't want her child to suffer even more by having to tell what she has experienced, she just wants her child to calm down.

**5. Inviting or greeting**

This strategy is used when the speaker conveys when there is a risk that threatens the hearer, such as not being considered or being ignored. The



speaker allows the hearer to get closer to simply say about the speaker assuming the hearer will be happy to join some event or do something.

For example: *Hei, Come here.*

This utterance shows when a father is watching TV, he sees his little boy standing up, and says that sentence. It shows the speaker using the Bald on Record as inviting strategy. He uses this strategy because he wants to invite the hearer to do something together.

#### **6. The prohibition of doubts or worries.**

This strategy is used by a speaker when he feels like, "Feel free to go about your business and don't worry about offending me," or something like, "Don't worry, I will mind you seeing me in such a mess."

For example: *Go first, I'll follow next to you.*

The sentence above shows the situation when two friends were climbing a mountain. The speaker realized that his friend was confused and scared while walking down the street. This sentence shows that the speaker uses the Bald on Record strategy as a prohibition of doubt or worry. He uses this strategy because he wanted hearer to feel safe with "Go first" and more at ease with "I'll follow next to you."

#### **2.1.3.2 Positive Politeness**

Positive politeness strategy is a strategy that emphasize kindness to prevent offending others. This strategy involves expressions of kindness, support, and praise. This strategy oriented to enhance the positive face of hearer. That positive face is hearer's desire to be valued and accepted by others in social

interactions. Additionally, it expresses collective reciprocity and affirms the amicable nature of the relationship. By making nice words and demonstrating a genuine concern in the hearer's needs, it often attempts to reduce the distance between them. Brown and Levinson (1987, p.101) purposes that positive politeness strategies try to protect the hearer's positive face (hearer's wants or need). Positive politeness is most commonly witnessed among groups of friends or in situations when people of diverse social classes are well acquainted. Usually tries to close the gap by exhibiting warmth and a genuine interest in the hearer's expected needs (minimize FTA). Some Positive Politeness strategies are below:

### **1. Notice**

This strategy attends to hearer's interests, needs, wants, or commonly suggests that the speaker take notice of the hearer's situation (especially anything that appears to be something the hearer would like the speaker to notice and approve of).

E.g., A child: *Mom, it's pouring rain outside.*

This quote takes place in a house, there is a mother and her child. The son as the speaker in this context accidentally looks out the window and spontaneously says about the condition out of their house to the mother who is beside him reading a magazine. This sentence shows that the speaker uses a Politeness strategy about Notice because he wants the hearer to know about something he has seen.

## 2. Exaggerate

This strategy attends to hearer's approval or sympathy. The act of exaggerating expression is making something more obvious. It's a means to intone the hearer's interest more strongly.

E.g.: *What a big party you did!*

The quote takes place at a party. The speaker told the host of the party that the party was very lively. That utterance shows that speaker use Politeness strategies about Exaggerating. The speaker uses this strategy to sympathize with the speech partner by expressing sentences of praise that look excited.

## 3. Intensify interest

This strategy attends by telling a compelling the speaker can show the hearer that he understands some of his desires.

E.g.: *You know what, I enter that empty house and what do you think I find?*

The quote above happened when a man was approaching his friend. As a speaker in this context, this man begins to tell his friends about what he has experienced. It indicates that he uses Positive politeness strategies about Intensifying interest. The speaker 'makes a living story' to hold the hearer's attention. The speaker uses that strategy to increase interest in his own contribution in discourse to others and to make a contribution to make the conversation more interesting by expressing it with passion.

#### 4. Use in-group identity markers

This strategy is a way to convey in-group membership. It may be used to soften FTA because a speaker can simply claim the common group with hearer that is carried by the definition of the group.

E.g.: *Come here, honey.*

The quote above occurs when a mother sees her child crying after coming home from school, then she said that to her child. This sentence shows the speaker using Politeness strategy about Use in-group as identity markers. The use of the word “honey” which means as darling or beloved. The speaker uses this strategy to address the hearer indicates that the speaker believes there is a little power or status between herself and the addressee.

#### 5. Seek agreement

This strategy is a strategy to agree with others. It may be accomplished by emphasize how much he agrees with the hearer and satisfy the hearer’s need to be correct. For example:

A: *I think that you should sleep after this.*

B: *Uhm, after this.*

The above is a conversation between friends A and B. A sees B who is studying from morning to night because he has an exam tomorrow. A is concerned about his friend. He advises B to go to bed immediately after completing his study. The word, “After this” shows that the speaker is using the strategy of Positive politeness to Seek agreement. It shows that he uses Positive politeness strategy about repetition of the sentence that has been

delivered by A which means he agrees with A's statement instead of B answering with the word, 'yes.' Speaker uses this strategy to emphasize emotional agreement that proves an accurate understanding of what the other person is saying.

## 6. Avoid disagreement

This strategy is noticing what the speaker says. Avoid disagreement makes it clear that the speaker should pretend to concur with the hearer in order to conceal dissent. This strategy is used by the speaker in order to appear to agree with the hearer, to conceal dissent, or to answer a previous statement with 'yes' rather than an obvious 'no,' a speaker may choose to manipulate their words.

For example:

A: *That's where you live, New York?*

B: *Yeah, New York. That's where I was born.*

The above is a conversation between friends A and B. That time, A was looking through B's album. He saw a photo of New York and he asked to B. Statement B indicates that he uses a Politeness strategy about disagreement avoidance. Rather than him saying no, he chose to answer "Yeah" but he made it clear that New York was where he was born. The speaker uses this strategy to hide dissent which could be used to soften FTAs. From B's statement, A knows that his statement is wrong, New York is not where B lives, but where B was born.

## 7. Presuppose

This strategy presupposes knowledge of hearer's need that assume 'yes' as the response. Speaker assumes the attitudes and desires of the hearer.

For instance: *You need a holiday! how about going to the beach?*

This sentence above occurs when the speaker is looking at his friend with a scowling face. The speaker assumes his friend's attitude as his need or desire for a vacation. He even invited his friends to go to the beach. That sentence shows that the speaker is using the Positive Politeness strategy of Presupposing to entertain the other person by trying to be 'sensitive.'

## 8. Joke

Joke is a strategy used to highlight similar values or backgrounds. In an effort to reevaluate the scope of the FTA, jokes are frequently used to exploit politeness. For instance:

A: *Ok, I will wear a pink shirt tonight.*

B: *Dude, you will become a pinky boy that talk with many girls.*

During the conversation, A and B are friends. They will go out together. A said about his plan to his friend that he will wear a pink shirt. Hearing this, B laughed and said that A would become a pinky boy who talks with many girls.

Statement A shows that he uses the Positive Politeness strategy about Joke. A's expression as a man who will wear a "pink shirt" shows the characteristics of a joke. A wouldn't wear pink. This shows that the speaker uses this strategy to highlight the value or background of something, for example, the pink shirt as a form of social closeness. Pink is a color that has the same characteristics as



women. This color is more often used by women than men and is considered to have a soft tone, suitable for female nature.

### 9. Assert

This strategy presupposes speaker's knowledge and concern for hearer's want. By claiming that the speaker and the hearer are collaborators, the speaker may potentially exert pressure on the hearer to work with them to further his or her own goals.

E.g.: *I know you don't like a coffee, but cappuccino will be great, do buy!*

This utterance shows that a speaker talks with his friend. He knows that his friend doesn't like a coffee, but he sees his friend is not happy. So that he invites him to buy a cappuccino together. He thinks that cappuccino will be good for his mood. The taste will make him happy. These sentence, "I know you don't like coffee." shows the speaker talks about his knowledge to the hearer. Then, he offers, "but cappuccino will be great, do buy!" It shows that the speaker uses the Positive strategy of asserting by offering cooperation to the hearer which is the intention because he wants to make him happy with a glass of cappuccino.

### 10. Offer or promise

Offer or promise is the natural result of using this strategy which shows the speaker's sincere desire to satisfy the hearer's need. The speaker may assert that, given a specific context of relevance, whatever the hearer desires, the speaker desires it for him and will work to make it happen.

E.g.: *I will pick you up tonight.*

In this sentence, the speaker uses the politeness strategy about promise. The speaker is indicating a sincere desire to satisfy the needs of the hearer that he wants to go out together, so he will pick someone up. The speaker uses this strategy because he wants to desire something for the hearer and it will work to make it happen.

### **11. Be optimistic**

This strategy uses when a speaker assumes that the hearer shares his desires and will work with him to fulfill them. That is, if the speaker is so arrogant as to expect the hearer will cooperate with him, the hearer may implicitly agree to work with the speaker because it will be in their shared interest.

E.g.: *So, today we're gonna bake daddy's birthday cake and surprise him. You got my point, didn't you?*

This sentence shows when an older brother (as the speaker in this context) tells his younger sibling about their father's birthday plans. The sentence, "You got my point, didn't you?" shows that the speaker uses the Positive politeness strategy about being optimistic. This sentence shows that the speaker hopes that the hearer understands the purpose of the conversation. Thus, the speaker uses this strategy so that the hearer may implicitly agree to work with the speaker because it will be in their shared interest.

### **12. Include activity**

This strategy is used when the speaker invites others to do the activity together.

For example: *Let's have a dinner.*

In this sentence, a man talking to a woman. He invites her to do something together, like having a dinner together. The sentence shows that the speaker uses the Positive politeness strategy including activity. The words, 'Let's' intends 'you' and 'me.' He advances the cooperative assumption and corrects the FTA by using the inclusive form 'we.' The speaker uses this strategy to soften the request by making it seem as if the hearer wants the thing being asked.

### 13. Give or ask for reasons

This strategy used by eliminates the implication that one intends to refuse by offering a different justification for one's possibly face-threatening behavior. By using this strategy which implies a lack of willingness to perform or accept something. For instance:

A: *Why don't you buy new shoes?*

B: *I have to save more for my more important needs; besides I can still wear my shoes properly.*

The sentence above, A and B are walking together. A sees B's shoes that are faded, he thinks B should change his shoes by asking him. B's sentence shows that he uses the strategy of Positive Politeness about Give a reason. He uses this strategy to imply a lack of desire to do what the other person wants.

### 14. Assume reciprocity

This strategy used by providing proof of reciprocal rights obtaining between speaker and hearer, one may assert the presence of collaboration between speaker and hearer. For instance,

A: *Hei kids, come on help me.*

B: *I will help you if you buy me a book.*

That conversation takes place between a father (A) and his son (B). The father was lifting a large table. He was unable to move the object on his own so he asked his son who was watching TV for help. B's answer shows that he uses the Positive politeness about assume reciprocity strategy. That sentence sounds like, "I will do something for you if you give something for me." Speaker uses this strategy to soften his FTA by referencing the reciprocal right to do FTA to one another, which negates the debt-related and face-threatening aspects of the speech act.

#### **15. Give gifts**

This strategy used by fulfilling of the hearer's wants, a speaker gives something that may truly satisfy the hearer's desire. Thus, in addition to tangible gifts which show that the speaker is aware of some of the hearer's wants and is eager to satisfy them, it may in the form of sympathy or something.

E.g.: *Congratulation! I bought something for you.*

The sentence shows when the speaker attends his friend's graduation ceremony. He had bought something to give to his friend as a token of congratulations on his graduation. In sentences, "*I bought something for you.*" shows that the speaker uses the Positive politeness strategy about giving gifts to hearer to show the hearer that he values the other person and satisfy him by offering sympathy or a gift.

### 2.1.3.3 Negative Politeness

Negative politeness strategy is a strategy that are carried out by showing respect or suggestion to avoid giving offense to hearer. This strategy is used to reduce dangers to the addressee's negative face (minimize the imposition), when the speaker wants something from the hearer in order to get their attention away from their freedom and the speaker's desire. An example of saying, *I know you're busy, but can you help me...* This statement is supported by Brown and Levinson (1987, pp.129-210) that described negative politeness as a corrective action directed against the hearer's negative face, meaning the hearer's desire for unrestricted activity. It also underlines that negative politeness underpins each other's conduct. Negative politeness is specific and focused. Positive politeness is employed among close friends, whereas this type of civility is used between strangers. Negative Politeness includes ten sub-strategies are below:

#### 1. Be conventionally indirect

This strategy refers to the necessary context a speaker who needs for the performance of hearer. The speaker uses this term to convey his wish to be indirect. This is about whether the speaker would consider, for example, a request reading to be likely given assumptions about the nature of the activity in which the utterance is placed. This is conventionalized so that there can be no ambiguity regarding the meaning, which means that on-record expressions with propositional content identical to that of the act they indirectly perform may be syntactically marked so that they cannot have their literal meaning. For example: *How about closing the door? Can you close the door, please?*

The sentence above speaks when someone has just entered an AC room, but he forgot to close the door again. The speaker saw that as an uncomfortable atmosphere. The door to the room must always be closed so that the AC works properly. He thinks that if someone doesn't close the door, the AC won't work properly and the room temperature won't cool down. The speaker tells the people what he wants, then he started pointing at the person who had forgotten to close the door earlier. That utterance shows that the speaker uses the Negative politeness strategy about being conventionally indirect because he wants the audience to perform, just as he wants other people to close doors to keep the room cool and comfortable.

## 2. Use question

This strategy used by serving as a direct notice of transgressions of facial desires, such as being honest about what the speaker wants to know from the hearer. For example:

A: *What are you doing?*

B: *I am reading a new novel.*

In the conversation above, A and B are in the library. A saw B, then he asks B. The word, "What..." is the characteristic of a question. The sentence shows that the speaker uses Negative politeness strategy about using question. He used this strategy because he wants to know what he wants to know about the hearer. Judging from B's response, A can find out what B was doing at that time.



### 3. Be pessimistic

This strategy used by expressly expressing skepticism that the circumstances are necessary for the speaker's speech act to be suitable, this strategy attempts to make up for the hearer's unfavorable reaction. One of the ways that this want might be fulfilled is by making an indirect request with a felicity condition assertion that has a negated probability inserted, such as "You couldn't possibly" or "I don't think there would be any chance of me...".

E.g.: *I didn't study last night. I won't be able to get good grades on my exams.*

There is a student who is sitting in the classroom. He looks worried because that day there will be a test. In the speaker's sentence can be seen that the speaker uses Negative politeness strategy about being pessimistic. He uses this strategy because he wants the hearer to fulfill the speaker's wishes, such as paying more attention or cheer up.

### 4. Minimize the imposition

Indirectly, this strategy may show hearer deference because it uses the FTA to indicate the intrinsic meaning of the imposition. This is accomplished by using expression like, *I just want to ask you if you could tell me your big secret.*

While chatting, someone asked his friend. The sentence, "I just want to ask if you could..." shows that the speaker uses the Negative politeness strategy. He used that strategy to indirectly force, he wants to know something about the hearer, such as the secret of the speech partner. The word 'just' is a word used to minimize imposition because it is considered a small or trivial thing.

## 5. Give deference

This strategy serves to defuse potential FTA by immediately expressing the idea that relative immunity from imposition is acknowledged. Furthermore, that speaker is not in a position to coerce hearer's compliance in any way.

E.g.: *I look forward very well to talking with you.*

The sentence was uttered by a student (speaker) while talking to a lecturer. It shows that a speaker uses Negative politeness strategy about giving deference because he wants to raise the hearer or feel respected.

## 6. Apologize

The use of this strategy is expressing regret for engaging in FTA, the speaker can show he is reluctant to affect the hearer's negative face.

For example: *Please forgive me for last night's incident.*

Someone has caused a noise in someone else's house. While visiting, he accidentally breaks a glass. He felt remorse, then expressed to hearer. That sentence shows that the speaker uses the Negative politeness strategy about apologizing. The phrase, "Please forgive me..." indicates an apology. The speaker uses this strategy to express regret for being involved in FTA.

## 7. Impersonalize

Impersonal is an action that does not designate or is not related to a particular subject. Impersonalize is a politeness strategy used by the speaker by not pointing at someone directly. This strategy aims to show that the speaker does not want to disturb the hearer by removing the word 'you' because this can offend the hearer. For example:

(1) *Put that down!*

(2) *You put that down!*

There are two different sentences. The first sentence uses the impersonalize strategy, while the second sentence does not. The first sentence does not use the word 'you' means that this imperative sentence does not directly refer to anyone, as if it refers to anyone.

#### **8. State the FTA as a general rule**

This strategy is carried out by declaring FTA as an example of general social rules, speaker and hearer can be separated from special coercion in FTA, it can be conveyed that speakers do not intend to impose but are only forced due to circumstances.

E.g.: *Passengers, please keep your seat belt on the plane.*

The sentence shows when everyone is on the plane that will soon take off. The flight attendant as speaker told everyone to keep their seat belt. It shows that the speaker uses the Negative politeness strategy about stating the FTA as a general rule and as a person on duty. The speaker uses this strategy because circumstances require them to obey the rules for everyone's safety.

#### **9. Nominalize**

Nominalization is the use of non-noun words as nouns, verbs are used as nouns. This strategy is used to partially address the specific needs of other hearer in lieu of an upfront threat in an FTA. For example:

(1) *Congratulation, you performed well.*

(2) *Congratulation on your good performance.*

There are two different sentences. The first sentence doesn't use nominalize because the word "performed" is a verb. Meanwhile, the second sentence use nominalize because the word, "performance" shows nominalize. Nominalizing the subject makes the sentence appear more formal for the speaker. The phrase "Your good performance" is more formal than "You performed well."

## **10. Go on record**

The use of this strategy is a speaker may discharge FTA by explicitly asserting this debt owed to the hearer or by denying any debt owed by the hearer, using expression like, *I'll be grateful if you give me good news.*

Someone accidentally bumped into someone else's pet cat. The owner then immediately checked the state of the cat. The speaker told the cat's owner that utterance. He hoped the cat was okay. The sentence, "I'll be grateful if you give me..." shows that the speaker uses a Negative politeness strategy about go on record as incurring a debt. He felt he owed it to the cat's owner if the cat died because he was the one who caused it. The speaker uses this strategy to waive the FTA by declaring a debt owed to the hearer.

### **2.1.3.4 Bald Off-Record**

Bald off record is a strategy that is used when one's saying is not directly addressed to the other. This strategy, which employs indirect phrasing, is the opposite of Bald on record. The basic purpose of this strategy is to reduce the speaker's responsibility. The speaker is distancing himself from all forms of imposition. When the risk is thought to be very great, the speaker performs the act with the least amount of potential for blame. Bald off record simply realizes the

thing so plainly. When someone says, *Uh, I forgot to bring my pen*, they are asking for a loan of a pen. The addressee must determine the meaning of such sentence because the speaker does not directly state it. Brown and Levinson (1978, pp.211-227) defines the bald off-record approach is defined as a communication activity that is executed in such a manner that it is difficult to attribute the performance to a single evident communicative purpose. This strategy makes use of indirect language, which denies the speaker the capacity to impose. As a result, the hearer must form assumptions to determine what the speaker intended. Bald off-record includes fifteen sub-strategies.

### **1. Give hints**

This strategy is used by mentioning something that is not directly relevant, speaker raises an issue about a desired action and invites hearer to look for an interpretation of the potential relevance.

E.g.: *What a summer day!*

This sentence was uttered by the speaker when he was with his friend. They were having school holidays and it was summer. The speaker revealed that utterance. The phrase shows that he uses Bald off record strategy about giving hint to the hearer. Actually, this sentence shows that a speaker tells a hearer about the summer day which means he wants to go to some places during that day. He uses this strategy because he wants the hearer to look for the interpretation or what the speaker actually wants.

## 2. Give association clues

The use of this strategy is a speaker mentioning something associated with the act required of hearer by precedent in speaker or hearer's knowledge.

E.g.: *Oh God, I have got a headache again.*

This sentence was uttered by the speaker when he was having a recurring headache. He mentioned about the condition he was in. The phrase, "I have got a headache" shows that the speaker uses Bald off record about giving association clues to the hearer. The speaker uses this strategy to mention something related to an action that requires the hearer to do something through the knowledge of the speaker or hearer. In this sentence, the speaker wants the hearer to give him bodrex: headache medicine.

## 3. Presuppose

The use of this strategy is related in contrastive stress situations which means the speaker assumes that someone is doing or has done. He made the assumption that he had done it before and therefore implied criticism. If the presupposed prior event is only significant on the assumption that the speaker and hearer are counting how often each performs the task, then this is also relevant because the speaker and hearer have agreed to share the task.

However, the use of the word 'again' causes the hearer to look for the relevance of the supposed previous event.

E.g.: *Your daughter cry again.*

A teacher takes his student to a mother after school. He said to a mother that her daughter is crying. He made the assumption that the child had cried before.



It shows that the speaker uses the Bald off record strategy about presupposing. He employs this strategy through the use of the word 'again' to cause the hearer to consider the significance of the alleged past event because the speaker assumes that he has done it before and can consequently infer criticism.

#### 4. Understate

Understate is a strategy for creating implications by saying less than is necessary, the objective being that it accurately captures the situation or to protect against a higher point (e.g., good, delicious, pretty) that would imply the lower actual state.

E.g.: A: *How do you think that ice cream taste?*

B: *It's not bad.*

This conversation shows that A asks B about how the taste of the ice cream. B's answer shows that he uses Bald off record strategy about understating. He is saying less than is necessary which means he actually can say the taste is 'weird', but he chooses to answer 'not bad.' He uses this strategy because he wants to minimize the FTA indirectly.

#### 5. Overstate

Overstate is a strategy for creating implication by saying over than is necessary. When the speaker speaks more than is necessary to the hearer, he may also imply anything by exaggerating, which is higher than the actual condition of events, which is the opposite of the understatement concept. The speaker expresses the criticism. Additionally, if the speaker wants to communicate off-record sarcasm, he could overstate it.

E.g.: *Why are you always sleeping?*

That sentence shows that when the speaker saw his friend didn't want to help clean up the class, he protested because he cleaned all of the work, but his friend is not helping and do nothing. That utterance shows that the speaker uses Bald off record strategy about Overstate. The speaker uses this strategy because he wants to communicate off-record sarcasm that human cannot always sleep, he must wake up, but in this context, the speaker exaggerates that his friend always sleeping which means do nothing.

#### **6. Use tautology**

Tautology is the practice of repeating same thing in different words, which is often regarded as a style flaw. The used of this strategy is by using a tautology, the strategy for generating inferences is to state obvious and necessary truths. Speaker challenges hearer to find an instructive reading of the non-informative statement. It could be a defense:

E.g.: *Your bag is where your bag is, my bag is where my bag is. Look upstairs!*

My brother was looking for the whereabouts of his bag, but he only found mine on the table. He completely forgot where he kept his bag, he asked me as if I had taken it. The sentence, "Your bag is where your bag is, mine is where mine is." shows that the speaker uses the Bald off record strategy about using tautology. He uses this strategy to make it clear and to avoid the misunderstanding that he is not taking other people's things which means he means it.

## 7. Use contradictions

This strategy is used when the speaker creates the impression that he 'cannot' be telling the truth by saying two statements that are in conflict with one another. Thus, he exhorts the hearer to seek an interpretation that melds the two incompatible claims. For example:

A: *Are you happy now?*

B: *Well, I am and I'm not.*

I'm on a date with my partner. Then he asked me how I felt. Then I answered hesitantly. The phrase, "I am and I'm not." shows that the speaker uses the Bald off record using contradiction strategy. The feeling of doubt that the speaker expressed had the impression that she was not telling her true feelings, so she made two opposing statements. She feels happy because she is with a partner, but she is also sad because her money is gone. She uses this strategy to get the hearer to find a suitable interpretation to combine the two opposing statements.

## 8. Be ironic

Ironic is an honest attempt to be funny or controversial by saying the exact opposite of what is intended. This strategy is used if there are hints that speaker's intended meaning is being implicitly conveyed, he can do so by saying the exact opposite of what he means.

E.g.: *You are a real masterpiece.*

I said that sentence to one of my friends who came late. We planned to go to the beach in the morning, but we had to wait for one of my friends who came late until the afternoon. That utterance shows that the speaker uses the Bald off

record strategy about being ironic. The phrase 'a real masterpiece' means the hearer just broke the record for the longest delay we've ever had a plan for. This is actually bad for the hearer, but by using this strategy, the speaker can minimize FTA by saying the opposite of what is meant.

### 9. Use metaphor

Metaphor is a type of figurative language, which is used to describe phrases or sentences that have a deeper meaning than they immediately appear to have. The usage of metaphor may typically on record, but it's possible that the precise connotations that the speaker means to convey.

E.g.: *Suga is a real giant.*

When I have dinner with my friends. I saw one of my friends, Suga is eating very voraciously. He has a fat body. The phrase 'real giant' shows that the speaker uses the Bald off record strategy of using metaphors which means Suga is a human who eats a lot and he is fat. He uses this strategy to minimize FTA by saying sentences that have an indirect meaning.

### 10. Use rhetorical questions

Rhetorical question is a question presented more for dramatic effect or to make a point than to get an answer. This strategy can be used to get around the sincerity requirement on the question that speaker wants hearer to provide him the specified information by asking a question without expecting an answer.

E.g.: *How many times should I explain to you that he has already left you!*

I saw my friend crying in her room. She still couldn't accept the fact that her boyfriend had left her. I complained to her because she wouldn't listen to me.

The words, 'How many times do I have to explain to you that....' shows that the speaker uses the Bald off-record strategy of using rhetorical questions. Instead of expecting an answer, the speaker uses this strategy because she wants to make the point to the hearer that she is tired of explaining too many times that something is true, but the hearer still denies it.

### **11. Be ambiguous**

Ambiguous is something that has multiple alternative meanings and can be understood in different ways. The speaker may decide to go off the record by being vague in a way that leaves his conveyed intent unclear rather than prompting a specific implicature. As in the example below, even though the context-relevant cues add up to an unambiguous statement, the speaker will have given the hearer a wink by minimizing the threat of the FTA by using what is technically indirectness. Metaphors can be used to achieve deliberate ambiguity because it is not always obvious which connotations are meant to be elicited.

E.g.: *You're a pretty sharp sword.*

A group is discussing a school assignment. There is one question that makes group members confused about how to answer it. One of my friends suddenly said an answer that was considered quite relevant to the question. We were all shocked to hear that. The phrase 'a pretty sharp sword' indicates that the speaker is using a Bald off-record strategy about being ambiguous. The phrase has several meanings that can mean good or bad for the hearer. The speaker

uses this strategy to minimize the threat of FTA by expressing sentences that have multiple meanings and can be understood in different ways.

## 12. Be vague

Vague is a statement that has an unclear meaning that is both general and unspecific. Speaker may violate the terms of an FTA by being vague about what the FTA's object is.

E.g.: *We're going to you-know-where.*

A child asks his father about the holiday plans this time. The speaker simply says that sentence. The words, 'you-know-where' indicates that the speaker uses a Bald off-record strategy about being vague. The speaker states sentence that has unclear or non-specific meanings. That sentence can mean they will go to a place that 'you' already know or a place 'you' have visited before, there are so many places. The speaker uses this strategy indirectly to force the hearer to guess what the speaker means.

## 13. Over-generalize

Generalization is a general statement or concept obtained by inference from particular instances. Speaker asserts a generalization (something's common) about something that is not supported yet by the evidence at hand.

E.g.: *If the book is piled up a lot, it will fall.*

A teacher is explaining to his students. The words, 'If (something happens) ..., it will...' shows that the speaker uses the Bald off-record strategy of over-generalizing. That sentence contains a general concept everyone knows that if lots of stuff are pill up, it will collapse. This is because the number of objects is

excessive, the position of objects is not neat, and the presence of gravity makes objects fall. This general concept can leave FTAs vague. The speaker uses this strategy to give hearer choices in deciding whether this general concept applies to them.

#### **14. Displace hearer**

The use of this strategy is a speaker reveals his FTA's target off-the-record or pretend to address it to someone it wouldn't threaten in the hopes that the genuine target will realize it is directed at him.

E.g.: *Would you mind getting a stapler for me?*

This statement occurs when a secretary in an office. During working hours, he needs a stapler. He saw the stapler near a senior, but he asked another staff to pass the stapler. It shows that the speaker uses Bald off record strategy about displace hearer. This sentence is actually more effectively addressed to person who are near the stapler, but the speaker chooses to address others. The speaker uses this strategy because he wants to save the FTA by pretending to pass it on to someone else in the hope that the real target will realize that it was addressed to him.

#### **15. Be incomplete**

Incomplete is a statement or behavior that is not having all the required or suitable parts. The use of this strategy is when a speaker does leave or uncomplete the statement.

E.g.: *Oh sir, my headache....*



This statement indicates that a speaker suddenly has a headache while talking with his friend. He couldn't bear the pain, but he didn't feel like bothering anyone else. He just said that sentence. It shows that the speaker uses the Bald off-record strategy about being incomplete. This sentence is an incomplete sentence for the hearer, like a sentence that 'hangs in the air'. The speaker uses this strategy to offer the listener the option of not giving the speaker some valuable medication or simply having him lie down to ease the pain.

#### **2.1.4 *Girl in the Basement***

The importance of using politeness strategies is not only found in actual society communication, but it can also be found in a movie. Wijayanti (2019, p.23) stated in her thesis that movie is often related with context that important of using politeness strategies because it serves as descriptions of the state of society. The researcher can conclude that movie is one of the media to describe the conditions of real people packaged in a regular story.

Movie has several genres and one of them is a crime movie. *Girl in the Basement* is an American crime movie that released in 2021. This movie has inspired by the true story of Elisabeth Fritzl (1984) who was held captive and abused in the basement by her own father for 24 years. The movie entitled *Girl in the Basement* tells the story of a normal teenager who rebels against her father's strict attitude, Sarah. She was looking forward to her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday in order to fulfill her dream of traveling the world, but her father, Don, locked Sarah in the basement.

Over the years, Sarah was abused until she gave birth to four children. This movie used modern cinematography as a means to convey a moral message and an impression of entertainment so that the audience gets the right emotions. However, the researcher only collected data based on a linguistic perspective. The researcher focused on Sarah and her children because they are victims in this movie. Don is an antagonist character who is over protective of Sarah. On the other hand, Sarah is Don's daughter who has a rebellious nature, but she still respects her parents. For years Sarah was held captive until she had a child with Don. With Marie and Michael, Sarah lives in the basement. On a mission to find a way out of the basement, they implement politeness strategies against Don.



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S U R A B A Y A

## **CHAPTER III**

### **RESEARCH METHODS**

This chapter discussed the method of the research. This chapter consist of research design, data collection, and data analysis.

#### **3.1 Research Design**

This study used a descriptive qualitative method since the researcher described the data in the form of an explanation of the phenomenon that occurs as it is. Descriptive research seeks to describe and explain situations based on existing facts. This statement is supported by the opinion of Ma'rifah, R. E (2015, p.30) cited on her journal that descriptive research is a type of research used to describe data factually by knowing accurate facts and having the right interpretation to solve research problems. The form of descriptive data is in the form of written sentences based on the utterances of the characters under study. Based on that, the researcher used politeness strategy as a research topic to reveal. The researcher described the types of politeness strategies used by Sarah, Marie, and Michel and their purposes of using it in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The researcher used Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness strategy. The researcher analyzed the data by presenting explanations in sentences or paragraphs.

#### **3.2 Data Collection**

In this subchapter, the researcher explained the methods that used to collect the data. The explanations include research data, data source and the subject, research instruments, and data collection technique.

### 3.2.1 Research Data

### 3.2.2 Data Source and the Subject

The data source was from movie *Girl in the Basement*. The data was in the form of utterances that used by the characters in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The researcher examined all the verbal communication contained the utterances of the characters who used politeness strategies.

This movie tells the story of a teenager named Sarah who was locked up and tortured by her father, Don, for years in the basement of her house without anyone knowing. Not only tortured, Don also abused Sarah until she gave birth to three children: Marie, Michael, and Thomas. Thomas was the lucky last child because he was the only child who didn't fall victim to it, Don decided to raise him with his wife, Irene. Therefore, Sarah, Marie, and Michael became victims of Don's evil deeds. So, those characters who become the victims are the subject of this research. Because they are under pressure from Don, who confines and likes to torture them, that's why the characters use politeness strategies to Don because they want to achieve certain goals which will be discussed in the next chapter.

### 3.2.3 Research Instrument

The researcher used herself as an instrument in this study. The researcher collected and analyzed the data herself. She is a main role in this research because only she used as a method in data collection. Besides that, the researcher used the website [www.bilibili.tv](http://www.bilibili.tv) to view the movie *Girl in the Basement* and analyzed it.

### 3.2.4 Data Collection Technique

The researcher used documentation techniques in data collection, namely collecting data in the form of utterances in several steps. The first step, the researcher watched the movie *Girl in the Basement* on [www.bilibili.tv](http://www.bilibili.tv) several times so that the researcher had a good understanding of all the contexts in the movie. In the second step, the researcher observed the movie and downloaded the script. The researcher carefully watched the movie and paid attention to the utterances which included four types of politeness strategies used by Sarah, Marie, and Michael in the movie *Girl in the Basement* until finished to make a transcription to analyze the data. Next, the researcher made abbreviation codes for four types of politeness strategies. After that, the researcher highlighted and signed the data including the types of politeness strategies using abbreviation code. The codes are below:

**Table 3.1 Bald On-Record Codes**

Bald On-Record Strategies	Abbreviation Code
Necessity of Urgency	NU
Attract the Attention	ATT
Give the Instruction	GI
Being Nice to be Acceptable	ACC
Comforting Advice	CA
Greeting	G
Prohibition of Worries	PW

**Table 3.2 Positive Politeness Codes**

Positive Politeness Strategies	Abbreviation Code
Notice	NC
Exaggerate	EX
Intensity Interest	II
Use In-group	UR
Seek Agreement	SA

Avoid Disagreement	<b>AD</b>
Presuppose	<b>PS</b>
Joke	<b>J</b>
Assert	<b>A</b>
Promise	<b>P</b>
Be Optimistic	<b>OP</b>
Include Activity	<b>IA</b>
Give Reason	<b>GR</b>
Assume Reciprocity	<b>AR</b>
Give Gift	<b>GG</b>

**Table 3.3 Negative Politeness Codes**

<b>Negative Politeness Strategies</b>	<b>Abbreviation Code</b>
Conventionally Indirect	<b>CI</b>
Questions	<b>Q</b>
Pessimistic	<b>PM</b>
Minimize Imposition	<b>MI</b>
Give Deference	<b>GD</b>
Apologize	<b>AP</b>
Impersonalize	<b>I</b>
State FTA as General Rule	<b>SGR</b>
Nominalize	<b>N</b>
Go on-Record	<b>GOR</b>

**Table 3.4 Bald Off-Record Codes**

<b>Bald Off-Record Strategies</b>	<b>Abbreviation Code</b>
Give Hints	<b>GH</b>
Give Association Clue	<b>GAC</b>
Presuppose	<b>PS</b>
Understate	<b>US</b>
Overstate	<b>OS</b>
Use Tautologies	<b>UT</b>
Use Contradictions	<b>UC</b>
Be Ironic	<b>BI</b>
Use Metaphor	<b>M</b>
Use Rhetorical Question	<b>RQ</b>
Be Ambiguous	<b>AM</b>
Be Vague	<b>V</b>
Over-Generalize	<b>OG</b>
Displace	<b>D</b>
Be Incomplete	<b>BIC</b>

GIRL IN THE BASEMENT (2021) TRANSCRIPT		
<a href="https://www.bilibili.tv/en/video/2005523768">https://www.bilibili.tv/en/video/2005523768</a>	Sarah: I don't see what the big deal is. It's just a party.	
[Woman coughing]	Don: The big deal is your attitude. Sit!	
[Breathing heavily]	Sarah: [Sighs] Mom.	
Sarah: Please, Marie. I need you to take deep breaths, okay? Please go faster.	Irene: Listen to your father.	MK Muthia Kamila BON - GI
Marie: Please, daddy.	Sarah: Are you kidding me? You said I could go.	
Sarah: Just follow my breath, okay?	Amy: J. I can take her.	MK Muthia Kamila PP - UR
Marie: Shh...	Don: Amy, stay out of it. You're not going. That's final. Go to your room.	
Sarah: I don't know what just happened. I don't know what happened. She... Marie, are you breathing? You have to go faster.	Sarah: Okay.	
Don: I'm going as fast as I can.	[Clears throat]	
Sarah: Go! She stopped breathing! Please keep breathing.	Irene: Who wants dessert?	
[Tires screeching]	Chris: Heh. There she is. Let's get out of here. What, you catch hell?	MK Muthia Kamila BON - NU
Don: Not a word. Can we get a little help here?	Sarah: Yeah, but I threw it right back.	
[Indistinct announcement on pa]	Chris: Right on.	
Nurse: Wait here, please.	[Engine starts]	
[Device beeping]	[Engine revving]	
Nurse: Help her. She's coding.	[Knocking on door]	
	Irene: Sarah? Come on, babe. I know you're mad. Come on, I just, I just <del>wanna</del> talk to you. Come on. There'll be other parties, I promise. Open the door.	

**Figure 3.1: Example of Abbreviation Codes Implementation on Data**

### 3.3 Data Analysis

After collecting the data, the researcher analyzed the data in several steps described below:

#### 1. Identifying the data

The process of identifying selected data focuses on characters using politeness strategies. The researcher identified selected data in the form of the utterances of Sarah, Marie, and Michael as victims of crime by their father that show the use of politeness strategies following the Brown and Levinson's theory. The researcher grouped each data based on the type of politeness strategy. After that, the researcher noted the context contained in the data.

#### 2. Classifying the data

After identifying the data, the researcher classified the data by grouping the data obtained using the following table based on the classification of the types



of politeness strategies. This table can be a guidance to answer the first research question about types of politeness strategies. The table below is intended to group data based on the type of politeness strategy used by each character.

**Table 3.5 Types of Politeness Strategies used by the characters in the movie Girl in the Basement**

NO	The character to the whom he/she talks to (S to H)	The use of politeness strategy	Data (utterances)	Playback time
1				
2				
3				
4				
5				

### 3. Analyzing the data

After classifying the data, the researcher analyzed what types of politeness strategies used by Sarah, Marie, and Michael, then analyzed their purposes of using that strategy. Based on the data that have been found in the table, the researcher analyzed the data by presenting the data in the form of description that contain the context of the conversation, types of politeness strategy that the characters used, dan their purposes of using that strategy using Brown & Levinson's theory which has related to answer both of the problems of the study. That way, the researcher can answer the first problem of the study about what type of politeness strategy that the character used and explain the second research problem about the purpose of using that strategy.

### 4. Concluding the research result

The final step is concluding the whole research. The research presented the research findings and discussion that include the types of politeness strategies

used by Sarah, Marie, and Michael and their purposes of using that strategy through the results of the analysis of politeness strategies in discourse and the researcher's interpretation of several literature reviews.



## CHAPTER IV

### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This chapter contains the findings and the discussion of data analysis which found by the researcher to answer all the problems of the study. This chapter describes and discusses the finding of this research. This study focused on the first problem of the study: types of politeness strategies used by Sarah, Marie, and Michael, then the second problem of the study: the characters' purpose of using politeness strategies in the movie *Girl in the Basement* based on Brown & Levinson's theory of politeness strategy. The researcher focused on data of three victim characters' utterances.

#### **1. Bald on Record**

Bald on record is a type of politeness strategy that is used by stating direct expressions. This strategy is usually used by speakers in an emergency. In the movie *Girl in the Basement*, the researcher has found that Sarah is the character who most frequently used the Bald on Record strategy against her father, Don, and son, Michael. She often used the Necessity of urgency on Don because there are several scenes when she is worried about Marie's condition, who is suffering from asthma. She asks Don to do something as soon as possible to help them. Apart from that, Sarah also often used Metaphorical urgency for Michael because there were several scenes when she needed Michael's help in doing something as the only guy in the basement. The following are some of the data in the form of utterances uttered by the characters including the use of the bald on record strategy.

### Data 1

**Sarah:** *“Please, Marie. I need you to take deep breaths, okay? Please go faster!”*

**Marie:** *“Please, daddy.”*

**Sarah:** *“Just follow my breath, okay?”*

The plot of the movie begins with the conversation between Sarah and Marie in Don’s car. They were on the way to the hospital to bring Marie, who had shortness of breath. She had asthma since childhood. Don is driving the car. They were in an emergency that required Marie to be treated by a doctor as soon as possible. Marie was almost out of breath. She couldn’t catch her breath properly. Sarah as a mother was very worried about Marie’s condition. In Sarah’s first utterance shows the use of Bald on Record. The sentence *“Please, I need you to...”* is the character of Bald on Record about the metaphorical urgency including entreaties. Sarah’s directness does FTA to Marie because of an emergency. In Sarah’s second utterance also showed the use of Bald on Record. The sentence *“Just follow...”* is the character of Bald on Record about metaphorical urgency include entreaties.

Sarah used Bald on record strategy because the situation forced her to give such entreaty to Marie. She wants to save her daughter. She wants Marie to keep breathing because she was realized the situation was not good that Marie was short of breath. Sarah asked Marie to listen to her to keep breathing well even though her asthma was making it very difficult for Marie to breathe. A case of urgency and the desire to make the situation worse led her to use the politeness strategy head-on. In this way, it shows that by using this strategy, she can support Marie to keep breathing so as not to make Marie’s condition worse.

## Data 2

**Sarah:** “I don’t know what just happened. She... Marie, are you breathing? *You have to go faster!*”

**Don:** “I’m going as fast as I can.”

**Sarah:** “*Go! She stopped breathing!*”

The quote above shows Sarah’s conversation with Don while taking Marie to the hospital. They are still on the way to the hospital. Marie had shortness of breath, so they had to get away as soon as possible. Marie’s condition, which has considered to be getting worse, making Sarah even more worried and urging Don to go faster. In Sarah’s utterances to Don, “*You have to go faster!*” and “*Go! She stopped breathing!*” indicate that she used Bald on Record strategy. “*You have to go...!*” is Bald on Record’s character about the necessity of urgency. Sarah’s directness does an FTA to Don due to an emergency. She used this strategy because she realized Marie’s situation was getting worse that she felt Marie stop breathing.

Sarah used this politeness strategy because the situation forced her to say that to Don. This case of urgency and the desire not to make Marie’s condition worse caused her to use this politeness strategy. Thus, it showed that the purpose of Sarah using this strategy was that she gives information about Marie’s condition which was really critical because she had stopped breathing. Also, Sarah can make Don drive faster so that Marie can be treated by the doctor more quickly.

## Data 5

**Michael:** “Ah.”

**Sarah:** “*Stop. Stay still.*”

The movie goes backwards, to the day Don locked up Sarah, Marie, and Michael in the basement. The conversation takes place between Sarah and Michael. Sarah tries to become a mother who keep Michael looking neat even though circumstances forced her to do anything, such as when she cut Michael's hair. An above Sarah's statement to Michael is a form of Bald on Record about giving instructions. When Sarah was cutting Michael's hair, Michael moved spontaneously indicating he wanted to finish quickly and couldn't wait to see the results of the haircut. Seen in the conversation when Michael said, "Ah." However, Sarah thought that it was not yet time for Michael to see the results of his haircut, she still looked busy tidying up his haircut.

Sarah greeting to Michael by saying, "Stop. Stay still." She used Bald on Record strategy about giving the instruction. She used this strategy because she realized that Michael's hair was still untidy by her. The purpose is Sarah tries to make Michael's hair look neat led her to adopt this politeness strategy. So, by using this strategy, Sarah can control Michael, who moves spontaneously to stay still so that his haircut looks neat.

#### **Data 6**

**Michael:** "Ah."

**Sarah:** "Stop. Stay still."

**Michael:** "Let me see."

This conversation is a continuation of the conversation in data 5. When Sarah was cutting Michael's hair to make it look neater, Michael looked impatient to see the results of his haircut, but Sarah told him to stay quiet because it wasn't finished yet. Seconds later, Michael said he wanted to see the results. This is

shown in Michael's utterance to Sarah, "*Let me see.*" Michael shows the use of Bald on Record strategy about metaphorical urgency including entreaties. He was correct in using this strategy in that situation because he wanted Sarah to stop immediately so he could see her neatly trimmed hair. Using this strategy, he managed to quickly stop Sarah's hands from busy smoothing Michael's hair.

#### **Data 7**

**Don:** "Come here. You are very, very beautiful."

**Sarah:** "*Marie. Marie, come here. Come here. Hey! Come here, set the table.*"

This is the conversation after the scene in data 5. When Sarah was busy fixing Michael's hair, and Don was seen relaxing while reading a newspaper, Marie suddenly appeared from behind the curtain. This conversation takes place when Marie showed that she was wearing make-up to look attractive in front of everyone at that time. Marie looked proud of herself while everyone thought she was still innocent without knowing the risks that would occur when she did that. The quote above is a form of Don and Sarah's response when they see Marie wearing make-up. In the quote, it can be seen that Don praised Marie by saying that she was very beautiful and he wanted to be closer to Marie.

Unlike Don, Sarah instead told Marie to get closer to her and stay away from Don. In Sarah's words, "*Marie. Marie, come here. Come here. Hey! Come here, set the table.*" shows that she used Bald on Record. The sentence "Come here, hey!" is the character of Bald on Record about metaphorical urgency including the order. Sarah's frankness threatens Marie to face the FTA. Sarah used this strategy because she realized that the situation when Don called Marie to come closer was not good for Marie. Sarah's purpose, as a mother who wanted to



protect Marie, did not want her child to become a victim of harassment by Don, as Don did to Sarah. By using this strategy, Sarah managed to keep Marie away from Don and things would calm down.

### **Data 8**

**Sarah:** *“Michael, help your sister.”*

This is a continuation of Sarah’s words from the scene in data 7. Feeling that she has kept Marie away from Don, Sarah also asks Michael to help her. The quote above is Sarah’s words to Michael without any verbal response from Michael. When Sarah said that to Michael, he immediately did what his mother said. In Sarah’s words, she pointed out the use of Bald on Record. The word, *“Help....”* Bald on Record’s character is directly metaphorical urgency task-oriented. Sarah’s frankness towards Michael gave Michael no opportunity to have an opinion or say anything, he just did what his mother said.

Sarah used this strategy because she realized that the situation was better when Marie was with Michael to get away from Don who wanted to approach Marie. The purpose of Sarah is protected both of them from Don. Thus, Michael would immediately do what Sarah said and the situation would be under control more quickly.

### **Data 11**

**Sarah:** *“No. Ah!”*

**Marie:** *“Dad, stop!”*

At the beginning of the 17th year scene shows the atmosphere of heavy rain. Sarah and Marie noticed when rainwater dripped into the basement. Sarah got the idea to make a hole in the basement roof with a tablespoon. That night

when the rain had stopped, a man was walking his dog past Don's house. He noticed that there was a small light flickering around the house. The light came from Sarah's flashlight that penetrated after she managed to make a hole in the basement roof. The man went straight to the Don and told him what he had seen. Don immediately realized that it was Sarah's doing, he looked angry and was afraid that other people would find out. After Don managed to save it, he headed straight for the basement. He brutally beat Sarah who was heavily pregnant. Sarah screamed and hurt, "No. Ah!" Hearing that, Marie immediately shouted to Don, "Dad, stop!"

The statement shows that Marie used Bald on Record strategy about the Necessity of urgency. This was because Marie directly told Don to stop hurting Sarah. She used this strategy because she wanted Don to stop beating Sarah as soon as possible. The use of this strategy in these conditions is correct. This was proven by Don's reaction after hearing Marie say "Stop!" He, who was hitting Sarah, immediately stopped and left the basement.

#### **Data 15**

**Michael:** "What's wrong with us?"

**Sarah:** "Nothing is wrong with you. I love you both so, so much. Okay? There's nothing wrong with you. It's him. It's always been him. Come here. I love you both so much.

*You mean everything to me, okay?"*

Right on year 17, the quote above is a conversation between Michael and Sarah when they get together with Marie after Don leaves the basement. This scene shows Sarah, Marie, and Michael sitting at the dinner table and starting to discuss something important. This is about the fact that Sarah has been hiding

from her children. Since childhood, Michael and Marie did not know about Don and what was happened to them. Michael only knows that he has a sister, Marie, and has parents, Sarah and Don. For years they lived together in a quiet place, limited, without knowing other people, and without enjoying the vastness of life above the basement. Sarah told Michael about what happened over the years because she felt it was time for her to know the truth. Sarah finally revealed the truth to Michael and Marie that Don was her father who had the heart to lock up, torture, and abuse Sarah without the knowledge of Sarah's mother, Irene, and her sister, Amy. When Michael heard that, he was immediately shocked as if he couldn't stop thinking about what had happened to him. This was expressed through Michael's utterance, "*What's wrong with us?*".

However, Michael's reaction makes Sarah worry and feel guilty. In Sarah's utterance shows that she used Bald on Record strategy. The line "*Nothing is wrong with you...*" is Bald on Record's character for the prohibition of worries.

Sarah's directness in using the strategy was because she realized that the situation was not good for Michael at the time. She used it because the situation prompted her to say that. Sarah used this politeness strategy when the FTA was imposed on Michael. A case of urgency, it shows that Sarah's purpose is to change the situation to normal causes her to used Bald on Record. This way, Sarah could calm Michael down and convince Michael that there was nothing wrong with him.

## 2. Positive Politeness

Positive politeness is one of the politeness strategies used by emphasizing kindness to prevent offending others. This strategy involves contrasting praise and criticism to hearer's desire to be valued and accepted by others in social interactions. It expresses collective reciprocity and affirms the amicable nature of the relationship (among groups of friends or in situations when people of diverse social classes are well acquainted). In the movie *Girl in the Basement*, the researcher has found that Sarah is the character who used the most Positive Politeness strategy regarding Notice and Use in group identity markers to Marie, her daughter. She used this strategy a lot because Sarah was Marie's mother who was always close and knew each other. The following are some of the data that the researcher found in the form of utterances uttered by the characters including the use of the positive politeness strategy.

### Data 20

**Sarah:** "Well, I'm gonna be late."

**Don:** "For what?"

**Sarah:** "*The party. Well, mom said I could go, like, two weeks ago.*"

This conversation takes place 20 years earlier before Don locks Sarah up in the basement, they are still living their daily lives as a family. One night, at the dinner table in Don's house there are Don, Irene (Sarah's mother), Sarah, and Amy (Sarah's sister). Sarah tells them that she has a plan to go to a party with her boyfriend, Chris, after dinner. In the middle of their dinner, Sarah stood up, she was about to leave the dining table. It can be seen from Sarah's utterance, "*Well, I'm gonna be late.*" Don immediately responded to Sarah's plans after leaving the dining table suddenly. The excerpt contains a conversation between Sarah and

Don. Seen that Sarah is gonna move from the dining table. After Don asked Sarah, “*For what?*” Sarah answered confidently, “*The party. Well, mom said I could go, like, two weeks ago.*” She delivered the utterance using a positive politeness strategy. It can minimize the FTA aspect of the hearer because she uses a positive politeness strategy about being optimistic. After answering Don's question, Sarah continued her statement that her mother allowed her to go to the party two weeks ago.

In addition, Sarah used this strategy because she wants to express her opinion confidently that she will go to the party because her mother has allowed her to go. Thus, Sarah will have a great opportunity to be able to go to the party with the support of her mother, Irene.

#### **Data 21**

**Sarah:** “*Why are you doing this?*”

**Don:** “Life is a series of interactions. Action, reaction. Choices, consequences. You chose to be disrespectful, and this is your consequence.”

This conversation takes place between Sarah and Don. In this scene, it is explained that Don did not allow Sarah to go out with her friends. He tricked Sarah into going with him to the basement which is located under the house. Don managed to lock Sarah in the basement without anyone knowing at that time. Sarah, who was still crying, tried to ask Don. She has her purpose to know about the reasons for keeping Sarah in that place. In this situation, Sarah uses a positive politeness strategy in the quote, Sarah says to Don, “*Why are you doing this?*”. In asking this question, Sarah used the positive politeness strategy of asking for a reason. The word “*Why...*” is the character of a positive politeness strategy about

asking a reason. This was done by Sarah to deal with the FTA by Don, he's letting her know what Sarah wanted to say after he locked Sarah in the basement. After that, Don answered by giving his reasons for treating Sarah like that. In this way, Sarah can find out why Don did this to her.

### **Data 27**

**Sarah:** *"Maybe we can kind of go outside. I think I might need a little bit of an adventure. What do you say? Michael!"*

**Michael:** "Yeah."

The above conversation takes place between Sarah and Michael. After several years Don locked up and tortured Sarah until she had two children, Marie and Michael. The quote takes place in the basement, at that time, Don wasn't there, only Sarah, Marie, and Michael were there. They get bored when they don't find much to do. They realized that there wasn't much they could do in a place like that. However, these limitations did not make Sarah run out of ideas to comfort Michael. In conveying her idea, Sarah used a positive politeness strategy including activity. She used this strategy to get her children to do something fun, like playing together. It has shown in Sarah's words to Michael. The sentence *"Maybe we can go..."* is characterized by positive politeness strategy including both speaker and hearer activity. The purpose of Sarah using this strategy is to invite Michael to do a play activity together. This can also be seen from the response of Michael who took part in the activity. Thus, Sarah can create a closeness of solidarity between mother and son that makes both of them feel comfortable with each other. This is in accordance with Brown and Levinson's theory about the use of positive politeness strategy among group or family.

**Data 28**

**Marie:** *“Ma, are you okay?”*

**Sarah:** *“Can you, can you go get me a towel, please?”*

**Marie:** *“Yeah.”*

The scene continues several times later, still in the basement where Don has locked up Sarah, Marie, and Michael. At that time, Sarah was pregnant for the third time. At that time, the condition of her womb was big means that she would soon give birth. She was sitting on the bed breathing hard. She was having contractions, so she was trying to catch her breath. There was only Sarah, Marie, and little Michael, no doctors to help her birth. Little Michael is sleeping, while Marie heard her mother’s heavy breathing. This can be seen in Marie who realized that her mother was not feeling well. Marie’s quote, *“Ma, are you okay?”* is a positive politeness strategy. She used a positive politeness strategy regarding notice to Sarah. She began to pay attention to the needs of the mother at that time. Marie was worried about Sarah but didn’t know what to do. She tries to make Sarah feels better by doing things for her. It can be seen when Sarah asked Marie to take a towel to meet her needs at that time. Thus, the purpose of Marie using the right strategy of positive politeness is to show that she pays her attention to her mother. It makes Sarah’s situation when she was in trouble giving birth easier.

**Data 29**

**Sarah:** *“Hey, what are you doing?”*

**Marie:** *“Make-up.”*

**Sarah:** *“No. you’re not wearing make-up.”*

The scene continues into the 14<sup>th</sup> year. After Sarah gave birth to their third child, whom they named Thomas, Don, and Sarah decided to take Thomas out of the basement and let Irene take care of him. So, Sarah, Marie, and Michael stayed



in the basement. At that time, the day Don was still locked up Sarah, Marie, and Michael in the basement, Sarah was seen cutting Michael's hair and there was Don nearby. He was reading the newspaper. Suddenly Marie appeared from behind the curtain. Marie showed that she was wearing make-up to look attractive in front of everyone at that time. Marie looked proud of herself, while everyone thought she was still innocent without knowing the risks that would occur when she did that. The conversation takes place between Sarah and Marie. The quote above is a form of Sarah's response when she saw Marie wearing make-up. In the quote, it can be seen that Sarah was against Marie doing this, especially when Don started to take an interest in Marie. As a mother, Sarah was worried about that because she knew how Don abused her at that time.

Judging from the conversation between Sarah and Marie, Sarah used a positive politeness strategy. She said, "*No. you're not wearing make-up.*" It shows that she used a positive politeness strategy about avoid disagreement. In this situation, Sarah used that strategy because she wants to protect Marie from Don. Sarah thought that when Marie put on make-up, bad things could happen. Actually, Marie could have done whatever she wanted to do, but not when Don was there. Thus, Sarah has her purpose to protect Marie and keep her in a safer state.

### **Data 31**

**Marie:** "How?"

**Sarah:** "*I'm working on it. I promise. You just have to be patient.*"

Still in year 14, the scene continues after Don leaves the basement. The quote shows a conversation between Marie and Sarah. One night, Marie was

contemplating alone in a corner of the basement, when Sarah approached her to find out what she was thinking. Marie was worrying herself about her not knowing anyone else, she didn't have any friends. She was worried that she would not find a good match. She pondered all that because she realized that she was only living in the basement without being able to enjoy the free environment. She only met her family and relatives, while she wanted to be free to meet anyone else, go anywhere, and do whatever she wanted. However, Sarah tries to convince Marie that she will soon get what she wants. On the other hand, Marie still doubted her mother's words. It can be seen from Marie's words, "How?". Then, Sarah answered with full confidence.

In Sarah's utterance shows that she used a positive politeness strategy. The sentence, "*I promise.*" It is a positive politeness strategy about promise. Sarah said that she would try to get out of that place so she could show some hope to Marie. She just needed to be patient for that time. She didn't want Marie to be disappointed and despair. By adopting this strategy, the researcher know that the purpose of Sarah is to make Marie believe in her words.

### **Data 32**

**Marie:** "Well, I think that when we get out of here, maybe you should get a divorce."

**Sarah:** "*Noted.*"

This conversation is still in the same scene as the scene in the previous data. This conversation was conducted by Sarah and Marie. They were still in the corner of the basement. They continued their conversation by bringing up the topic of Sarah's relationship with Don. At that time, Marie only knew that Don

was Sarah's husband without knowing the truth. Marie doesn't know that Don is actually Sarah's father, which means Don is her grandfather. However, Don had done bad things to Sarah, so that Sarah gave birth to Don's child.

Sarah and Marie believe that one day they will be able to get out of that basement and will be able to do whatever they want to do in a free environment one day. In telling Marie to Sarah that maybe when they would get out of this place, Marie suggested that Sarah should divorce Don. She thought that Don's attitude was very unkind to Sarah. This is shown in Marie's utterance, then, Sarah responded to Marie's idea with a convincing answer. Sarah said, "*Noted.*" indicating that she agreed with Marie's opinion to get divorce with Don after they left the premises. Sarah's words show that she used a positive politeness strategy. The word "*Noted*" which can be interpreted as an agreement is the character of a positive politeness strategy regarding seek agreement. By using this strategy, the researcher knows that Sarah's purpose is to get a closeness of solidarity in the family as a mother and a daughter are united because they are in the same situation.

#### **Data 34**

**Don:** "Hello, kids! Class dismissed! Happy birthday!"

**Michael:** "*Thanks, Dad.*"

**Don:** "You're welcome."

The scene continues in the 18<sup>th</sup> year. At that time, Marie was sitting beside Michael. They are reading a book. Nearby, Sarah was cooking dinner. Then, Don suddenly arrives with a present for Michael, that day is Michael's birthday. It can be seen from Don's utterance to Michael, "*Happy birthday!*" In response to Don's

words, Michael expressed his thanks and respect to Don for giving him a gift. In Michael's words to Don, he used the positive politeness strategy, "*Thanks, Dad.*" In that quote, there is the word "*Dad.*" This is a character of positive politeness strategy about use in group to make identity markers. The ID that Michael used for Don is "*Dad.*" which means male parents.

By using this strategy, the researcher knows that Michael's purpose was to minimize the FTA aspect by making both older people and those who have given him gifts more comfortable. In addition, this strategy can increase the closeness of solidarity in the family.

#### **Data 36**

**Sarah:** "*Do you remember the story I used to tell you about the fairy Princess and how her father cut off her wings?*"

**Marie:** "My favorite story."

**Sarah:** "Yeah. That's kind of my story. I'm the fairy Princess."

The scene continues when Don has left the basement. Before that, Don tells about the life of Thomas growing up, eating well, and playing ball, he can do anything. Marie and Michael also wanted to be like Thomas. They were angry with Sarah for assuming that the reason they were locked up was because Sarah would not do what they wanted. In truth, they had no idea what had happened between Don and Sarah. They only know that Don locked Sarah up because Sarah was disobedient to Don. After that, Don left the basement. Hearing her children blame her without knowing what happened, Sarah was furious, she smashed things around her until she finally fell asleep on the floor. Marie and Michael were silent, but they felt guilty, they tidied up the messy things. Before long, things got more under control. Sarah awakens from her sleep. Marie and Michael

apologize to Sarah. Sarah had calmed down too. Everyone gathered at the dining table and started talking.

The conversation took place between Sarah and Marie. Sarah intends to explain what happened between Sarah, Don, and them. He also tells what Don has been doing to them all this time. Sarah started tell the story by alluding to the “story” that Sarah used to tell Marie every day. That story is Marie’s favorite story which tells about the fairy Princess and how her father cut off her wings. In Sarah’s words to Marie, “*Do you remember the story I used to tell you about the fairy Princess and how her father cut off her wings?*” shows that she used a positive politeness strategy. The sentence, “*Do you remember...*” is the character of a positive politeness strategy about intensity interest to Marie. By using this strategy, Sarah’s purpose was able to get Marie’s attention to fully pay attention to what Sarah had to say about things that were important for her to know. To attracts Marie’s interest by mentioning things she likes, Marie would listen to Sarah’s words until the end. This way, it would be easier for Sarah to explain the truth that she had been hiding from Marie for a long time. It can be seen from Marie’s response, who was interested in Sarah’s words when she used this strategy, “*My favorite story.*”

#### **Data 41**

**Don:** “What the hell is going on here?”

**Sarah:** “She just had an asthma attack, and she’s barely breathing. She needs to go to a doctor, now!”

**Don:** “No, no. I can’t risk it.”

**Sarah:** “She’s dying! What, you hate us that much?”

**Don:** “Well, maybe it’s for the best.”

**Sarah:** “*Y-you love Thomas, don’t you?*”

**Don:** “He’s a good kid.”

**Sarah:** *“Yeah, okay, well, if you really care about him. You’re gonna just let his sister die? She needs to go the hospital! She needs a doctor now!”*

The scene continues in the 20<sup>th</sup> year. In the basement at that time, Sarah and Michael were lying next to Marie. They took care of Marie who was seriously ill at that time. Marie’s body looked very pale and her body temperature was very high. Marie has had asthma since childhood when her asthma relapsed. They were worried about Marie’s condition getting worse, but they couldn’t do anything but wait for Don’s arrival to take Marie to the hospital.

The above conversation takes place between Don and Sarah during an emergency. After a while, Don came to open the basement door. He saw that the situation at that time was very chaotic. This is shown in Don’s words, *“What the hell is going on here?”* Sarah responded to Don by saying, *“She just had an asthma attack, and she’s barely breathing. She needs to go to a doctor, now!”* Marie had to be taken to the hospital immediately, but they were still in the basement, Don was reluctant to let them out. He was worried that if he let them out of the basement, he was afraid they would run away and report it to the police. It was dangerous for Don. He didn't want to take that risk. Don was fixed about not letting them out. Don said, *“No, no. I can’t risk it.”* However, Sarah and Michael are worried about Marie’s condition. She has shortness of breath. Sarah panicked even more, then said to Don, *“She’s dying! What, you hate us that much?”* Don only cared about his own interests without thinking about Marie’s deteriorating condition. This can be seen from Don’s words, *“Well, maybe it’s for the best.”* Don deliberately let Marie suffer from asphyxiation, he thought maybe it was for the best. Don’s statement made Sarah furious and thought hard about



how to persuade Don to take Marie to the hospital to save her life, there was barely any time left.

At that time, Sarah was the one who was most concerned about Marie's condition. She would do everything so that Don would take Marie to the hospital as soon as possible. Sarah started looking for a way to get Don to take Marie to the hospital by bargaining. She started to say to Don, "*Y-you love Thomas, don't you?*" These words made Don melt a little because Don began to think that Thomas was a good boy. It didn't stop there, Sarah continued, "*Yeah, okay, well, if you care about him. Are you're gonna just let his sister die? She needs to go to the hospital! She needs a doctor now!*" It shows that Sarah used a positive politeness strategy. That quote is the character of the positive politeness strategy about asserting. Sarah concerns that Don would think of Thomas as a good son and he loves Thomas, then it would work just by associating with Marie as Thomas' sister. By using this strategy, the researcher knows that Sarah's purpose is could make Don feel guilty if Marie as Thomas' sister, died simply because of Don's selfishness.

### **3. Negative Politeness**

Negative politeness is one of the politeness strategies used by showing respect or giving suggestion to avoid giving offense to hearer. This strategy is used by speaker when interacting with older people or respected people. In the movie *Girl in the Basement*, the researcher has found that Marie is the character that used the Negative Politeness strategy the most on Sarah, her mother. She used this strategy a lot because Marie respected her and didn't want to put pressure on



Sarah about something she wanted, such as when she used to use question, be conventionally indirect, and be pessimistic strategies. The following are some of the data that the researcher found in the form of utterances uttered by the characters including the use of the negative politeness strategy.

#### Data 45

**Don:** “Hey. Hang up the phone. I need your help with something.”

**Sarah:** “I’m sorry Chris. I have to call you right back.”

**Don:** “Come on.”

**Sarah:** “What do you want?”

**Don:** “Pick this up. Come on. We’re going down the basement. That’s right, keep going. Watch your step.”

**Sarah:** “*What is this place?*”

**Don:** “Previous owner built a bomb shelter. I made some improvements.”

This scene took place a few months before Don locked Sarah in the basement. He was planning on how to trap Sarah so he could carry out his plan. Finally, one morning, Irene was going to a store. She intended to ask Sarah to join her, but Sarah refused because she was on the phone with her boyfriend, Chris. In the house, only Sarah and Don are seen. This situation was used by Don to launch his action, he tried to frame Sarah. Seeing that Sarah was still busy with her phone, Don came up with an alibi by calling Sarah to help him move a large box to the basement. This is shown in Don’s words to Sarah, “*Hey. Hang up the phone. I need your help with something.*” dan “*Pick this up. Come on. We’re going down the basement. That’s right, keep going. Watch your step.*” Sarah hung up the phone and followed Don’s order, “*I’m sorry Chris. I have to call you right back.*”

They carried the box down to the basement of his house. Don had purposely placed the box in a corner of the cellar so that Sarah was far away from

the exit of the room. At this time, Sarah has not yet realized that she will be locked in the room by Don. While looking around the room, she asked Don about the place, “*What is this place?*” It shows that Sarah used a negative politeness strategy about using questions. The word “*What...*” is a character of an interrogative sentence which means that is a question. By using a question, Sarah used the negative politeness strategy. Sarah’s utterance indicated that she did not know what place she was looking at that time. By using this strategy, the researcher knows that Sarah’s purpose of using the strategy is to get answers to what thing she doesn’t know to Don. Then, Don answered Sarah’s question that room was built by the previous owner as a bomb shelter.

#### **Data 49**

**Marie:** “*Can you tell me a story?*”

**Sarah:** “Another one?”

**Marie:** “And I want a new story?”

**Sarah:** “Okay, Um... Once upon a time there was a fairy princess and she was in love with a handsome prince.”

After seven years since Don locked Sarah in the basement, Sarah has two children named Marie and Michael. This scene shows the situation in the basement which is very quiet. Don was nowhere to be seen only little Michael was sound asleep, while Sarah was beside Marie on the bed. The conversation took between Marie and Sarah. It was such a quiet night that Marie couldn’t fall asleep. Marie wanted to hear a story from Sarah. It is shown by Marie’s words to Sarah, “*Can you tell me a story?*”. It shows that she used the negative politeness strategy. The sentence, “*Can you tell me...*” is the character of a negative politeness strategy about being conventionally indirect. Marie used this strategy

because she wants Sarah to do something for her, she wants Sarah to tell her a story. She used this strategy because her sleepless situation prompted her to ask Sarah to tell her a story so she could sleep faster that night.

### Data 52

**Don:** “What are we calling this one?”

**Sarah:** “Thomas.”

**Don:** “He looks like my father, a miserable little man.”

**Sarah:** “I was thinking, it could be a really good idea if... Well, if you took this one upstairs.”

**Don:** “What kind of a mother are you? You’re just gonna... Abandon one of your children? And I’m done raising kids.”

**Sarah:** *“What about Reenie? There’s not enough room down here for two kids. Definitely not three. And if I didn’t spend so much time taking care of him... I would have way more time to take care of you.”*

After some time has passed, Sarah is pregnant again. The conversation took between Sarah and Don after Sarah gave birth to a new baby called Thomas. Now in the basement, there are four people. Sarah realized that four people were too many for the cramped room. She thought that Thomas could be taken out of there and taken care of by her mother, Irene. It is shown by Sarah’s words to Don, *“Well if you took this one upstairs.”* Don was against this idea because he thought it was a crazy idea. He thought that what kind of mother Sarah was, she would just abandon her children. However, Sarah wants to convince Don that it’s not a bad idea. It is shown by Sarah’s words, *“What about Reenie? There’s not enough room down here for two kids. Not three. And if I didn’t spend so much time taking care of him... I would have way more time to take care of you.”* It shows that she used a negative politeness strategy about minimizing imposition.

She used this strategy because she wants to achieve a certain goal.

Indirectly, she meant to force Don to use something that was deemed easy and

safe to do since Thomas was just a baby who wouldn't be able to do much. Don just needed to take Thomas out and take care of him with Irene. She argued to Don that this place would not be comfortable for more than other people, thus Thomas had to be brought up. However, there was actually another reason Don didn't know about Sarah's reason for asking Don to take Thomas out of the basement. She could have taken the opportunity to put a sign about her condition to other people. Here, Sarah tried to find a way to put a letter of help to Irene, which she would tuck into Thomas' clothes so that Irene could find out Sarah's whereabouts. Using this strategy, she got Don to consider the idea, then finally brought Thomas upstairs with a secret letter.

#### **Data 54**

**Sarah:** "Hey, remember to breathe, honey. What's goin' on? Will you talk to me?"

**Marie:** *"I don't know anyone. I don't have any friends. What if I never meet anyone? What if I never meet a nice boy?"*

**Sarah:** "You will."

The quote shows a conversation between Marie and Sarah. Entering the 14<sup>th</sup> year, one silent night, Marie was contemplating alone in a corner of the basement, Sarah approached her to find out what she was thinking, "*What's goin' on? Will you talk to me?*" Marie was worrying herself about her not knowing anyone else, she didn't have any friends. She was worried that she would not find a good match. She pondered all that because she realized that she was only living in the basement without being able to enjoy the free environment. She only met her family, while she wanted to be free to meet anyone else, go anywhere, and do whatever she wanted. It can be seen from Marie's utterance, it shows that she used

a negative politeness strategy about being pessimistic. She used this strategy because she wants to express her hopeless feeling. She felt that the thing she wanted would not happen. She wanted all of that to come true. By using this strategy, the researcher knows that her purpose is would earn Sarah's support. It can be seen from Sarah's response after that, she tried to convince Marie that she would soon get what she wanted. This is in accordance with Brown and Levinson's theory which stated that the purpose of using negative politeness about being pessimistic is so that the speaker's wishes can be fulfilled by making a statement about the impossibility of happening.

#### **Data 58**

**Marie:** "We just wanna go outside, mom! Do something!"

**Sarah:** "Shut up!"

**Michael:** "Sorry."

Four years later, in the 18<sup>th</sup> year since Don locked Sarah and her children in the basement. The conversation took place between Sarah and Michael after they got into an argument. Marie and Michael desperately wanted to get out of the room. They wanted Sarah to do something to get them out. Sarah also wanted to get out of that place, but she was confused about what efforts to make. Marie and Michael blamed Sarah for assuming Sarah was the reason they were locked up in the basement. As a result, Sarah got fed up with them because she felt cornered without being able to do anything. They don't know what happened. On the other hand, Sarah just wants to protect them from Don. Sarah shouted at them, "*Shut up!*" to silence them. They began to think that what he had done was too much.

Finally, Michael feels guilty about Sarah and apologizes to her. It is shown in Michael's words to Sarah, "Sorry." In his words, Michael used a negative politeness strategy. The word, "Sorry" is the character of a negative politeness strategy about an apologize. She used this strategy because she realized that the situation was not good and that Sarah was feeling very depressed over Michael's behavior. By using this strategy, Michael's purpose is to normalize the situation caused her to adopt this politeness strategy. This is in accordance with Brown and Levinson's theory which states that the purpose of using negative politeness about apologize is to express regret for being involved in an FTA.

#### **4. Bald Off Record**

Bald off record is one of the politeness strategies used when one's saying is not directly addressed to the other. This strategy makes use of indirect language, which denies the speaker the capacity to impose. As a result, the hearer must form assumptions to determine what the speaker intended. In the movie *Girl in the Basement*, the researcher has found that Sarah is the character who used the Bald off Record strategy the most on Don, her father. She used this strategy because Sarah was under pressure from Don. She couldn't do whatever she wanted unless Don agreed, so she just said something to prompt Don to think about what Sarah meant, like when Sarah used the give hint strategy. The following are some of the data that the researcher found in the form of utterances uttered by the characters including the use of the bald off record strategy.

#### **Data 62**

**Sarah:** "Oh Marie, I'm sorry."



**Sarah:** “No. No. None of these are for kids. I don’t know how much to give her.”

**Don:** “Give her half.”

**Sarah:** “*What if it makes her worse, or poisons her? Her temperature’s 101degrees!*”

This scene takes place in the seventh year since Don locked Sarah in the basement. That day, Marie had a high fever, Sarah could only compress using a cloth and warm water, couldn’t do much more than that. He felt guilty towards Marie, “*Oh Marie, I’m sorry,*” Shortly thereafter, Don appeared carrying a medicine for Marie. However, Sarah thought that none of the drugs were fit for consumption by child, like Marie. She’s not a doctor, she doesn’t know the measurements for children. This was disclosed by Sarah to Don, “*No. No. None of these are for kids. I don’t know how much to give her,*” Different from Sarah, Don wasn’t worried about Marie’s condition, easily said that the medicine was still suitable for Marie to take as long as Sarah gave her half of the medicine, “*Give her half.*” Don’s words made Sarah even more worried it would make Marie even worse. It is shown from Sarah’s utterance to Don, “*What if it makes her worse, or poisons her? Her temperature’s 101 degrees!*” Sarah’s words showed that she used the Bald off Record strategy on overstate. The sentence, “*What if...*” shows that it is an exaggeration, she is exaggerating something that is not certain before she tries. She rejected Don’s opinion indirectly about the idea of giving the medicine to Marie. If Sarah followed Don’s opinion, she was afraid that Marie’s condition would be even worse. From this statement, the researcher knows that Sarah’s purpose of using this strategy is to tell the criticism to Don. This is in accordance with Brown and Levinson’s theory of using the overstate strategy in



Bald off record that by using this strategy the speaker expresses something by exaggerating the actual conditions.

### Data 63

**Sarah:** "Can you stop it?"

**Marie:** "Not right now."

**Sarah:** "*Time for bed. Can you brush your teeth?*"

**Marie:** "But I wanna go with Don."

The scene continues several times later, Marie looks healthy again. That night, Don is nowhere to be seen with them. Sarah washed the dishes, they had finished dinner, and little Michael was playing alone. On the other hand, Marie was singing while looking outside through the window from the basement. Furthermore, Sarah thought it was already late at night, time for bed, then she called Marie and told her to brush her teeth. It is shown when Sarah said to Marie, "*Time for bed. Can you brush your teeth?*" Sarah's words indicated that she was hinting to Marie that she should sleep soon indirectly. The sentence, "*Time for bed.*" could mean "Time to sleep." This remark shows that Sarah used the Bald off Record strategy of giving hints. The purpose of Sarah's utterance can be identified as a command to Marie to do something she has to do at that time. She could reduce the FTA, judging from her response, Marie didn't directly refuse Sarah's order, but she reasoned.

### Data 65

**Marie:** "Ta-da!"

**Michael:** "*Really? You look like a clown.*"

**Marie:** "Yeah, as you."

The day Don still locked up Sarah, Marie, and Michael in the basement. Sarah is cutting Michael's hair, while Don is nearby, is reading the newspaper.

Suddenly Marie appeared from behind the curtain, “*Ta-da!*” Marie showed that she was wearing make-up to look attractive in front of everyone at that time. Marie looked proud of herself. The conversation takes place between Marie and Michael. Marie was so excited about the new thing she was doing to make her up. However, as a brother who likes to tease other siblings, Michael judged that the make-up was not suitable for Marie. He felt more pleasure in ridiculing Marie than praising her. Judging from Michael’s response when Marie showed her make-up face, “*Really? You look like a clown.*” This statement showed that Michael used the Bald off Record strategy about using metaphor. The word ‘clown’ can be interpreted that Michael indirectly assesses Marie’s make-up is not good. By using metaphor, Michael can reduce the FTA that Marie can look funny like a clown. The use of metaphor can usually be recorded, but it may be the exact connotation the speaker is trying to convey. So, Michael’s purpose in gave his opinion on Marie’s make-up using metaphorical sentences is to make his ridicule sounds more delicate.

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## CHAPTER V

### CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this chapter, the researcher presented the conclusion of this study. In addition, the researcher also conveyed suggestion for further research related to the topic has used in this study.

#### 5.1 Conclusion

This chapter presented the conclusion of the research based on the findings and discussion explained in the previous chapter. This included the types of politeness strategies used by the characters in the movie *Girl in the Basement*, and their purposes of using politeness strategy. The conclusion was formulated below:

There are four types of politeness strategies based on Brown and Levinson's theory containing many sub-strategies that types of those strategies used by Sarah, Marie, and Michael in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The researcher found that all the characters used four the types of politeness strategies based on Brown and Levinson's theory. Those are Bald on Record, Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness, and Bald off Record.

Bald on Record is a strategy that is used by stating direct expression in emergency situation. Due to Sarah lives in the basement under pressure from her father and her daughter has asthma, it pushes Sarah into a state of emergency. She can only ask Don to do something as soon as possible to help them. That's why Sarah became the character that most often used this strategy about many sub-strategies: metaphorical and necessity of urgency that include entreaties, the order or instruction, task-oriented, and prohibition of worries. Positive Politeness is a

strategy that is used by emphasizing kindness to prevent offending others consist of praise or criticism to be valued by others. Due to Sarah is a mother of her children, Marie and Michael who should take care of them, Sarah became the character that most often used about many sub-strategies: being optimistic, ask or give reason, asserting, promise, notice, use in group as identity marker, seek agreement, avoid disagreement, include activity, and intensity interest. Negative Politeness is a strategy that used by showing respect or giving suggestion to avoid giving offense to others. Marie is the character who used this strategy the most on her mother, Sarah because as the eldest child, she respected and didn't want to put pressure on Sarah about something she wanted. That's why she often used about many sub-strategies: be conventionally indirect, use question, and be pessimistic. Bald off Record is a strategy used when one's saying something indirectly so that the others must form assumption to determine it. Due to Sarah was under pressure from her father, she couldn't do whatever she wanted, so she just said something to prompt Don think about what Sarah meant. Sarah became the character that used often this strategy about giving hint to Don.

Based on the data in the movie *Girl in the Basement*, the researcher also found that the purposes of Sarah, Marie, and Michael using politeness strategies were to avoid unpleasant actions (FTAs) and to show a good attitude towards her father, Don, so that they would not be tortured by him. This is following the statement of Brown and Levison (1987, p.61) that politeness strategy is a strategy that is oriented toward 'face' as a public image that describes a person's ability to behave both in private and public settings. Such private settings involve the

speaker trying to prevent discomfort from other people with a specific purpose. They used politeness strategies under Don's pressure because they were being locked up in the basement by him. For years they lived not according to their needs or wants but dictated by the Don. Besides that, their purpose in using politeness strategies was to gain sympathy so that Don would get them out of the basement.

## 5.2 Suggestion

After conducting this research, the researcher offers a suggestion that might be useful for English Department students interested in researching politeness strategies. This research is limited to using Brown and Levinson's theory of politeness strategy used by the characters in the movie *Girl in the Basement*. The researcher suggests examining another aspect, such as the factors influencing the use of the politeness strategy in this movie. In addition, future researchers can elaborate on Brown and Levinson's theory with other politeness strategies to obtain more complex research results.

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