COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SWEAR WORDS IN UNCUT GEMS MOVIE

Rail Mifta Zelira[1], Fitrawati[2]
English Department
Faculty of Languages and Arts
Universitas Negeri Padang
email: railmiftaz@gmail.com

Abstract

This research aims to examine the functions, types, and differences in swear words between male and female in the Uncut Gems movie. The purpose of this research is to find out the types of swear words, the purposes, and the differences of swear words uttered by male and female characters in Uncut Gems movie. This research employed the descriptive-qualitative method. The data of this research were words, phrases, clauses, and sentences consisting of swear words which were selected from the dialogues of male and female characters in the Uncut Gems movie. While the source of data was the script of the Uncut Gems movie. This study showed that the use of swear words is dominated by the male characters compared to the female. The most dominant type of swear word used by both genders is emphasis. Male characters use swear words mostly to create attention while the female is to provide catharsis. Both male and female characters tend to be more aggressive when uttering swear words. However, when it comes to the variety and range of swear words themselves, it appears that male characters do use more than female characters. This research found that there are two types of swear words, stand-alone and slot-filler. Stand-alone has four functions expletive interjection, curses, unfriendly suggestion, and name-calling. The slot-filler also has four functions adjective/adverbial intensifier, the adjective of dislike, emphasis, and anaphoric use of epithet. At least five purposes of swear words were found to create attention, discredit, provoke, create interpersonal identification, and provide catharsis.

Key words: Swear Words, Male and Female, Uncut Gems

A. INTRODUCTION

Humans are known to be social beings. They are unable to survive without the assistance of others. Building relationships with others is one of the things that must be done to survive. As a social process, humans need to be able to

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[1]English ELLSP of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang graduated on March 2022
[2]Lecturer of English Department of FBS Universitas Negeri Padang

communicate effectively. It can be accomplished through the use of a medium known as language. Language serves a variety of purposes as a tool of communication. People utilize language to communicate their intentions to others in general, transmit messages, or send information to keep discussion activities moving smoothly. Furthermore, according to Alifiani (2018), a language also reflects the speakers' personality, character, and background. As a result, each person has a unique way to select the language variant that can validate someone's identification.

Furthermore, when depressed or upset, some people tend to utilize language that has a big impact, such as swear words. A swear word is a term or phrase that the general public considers profane, obscene, vulgar, or otherwise unpleasant. These words are referred to as "bad words," "obscene words," "expletives," "dirty words," "profanities," and "four-letter words." After all, swear words are not simply a group of phrases that sound harsh, unpleasant, or inappropriate when spoken. Each word has more to it than its precise meaning; it also has an emotional connotation due to how it is applied in the language (Pinker, 2007).

There have been several previous studies on the relationship between swear words and gender. The first study was titled Male and Female attitudes Towards Swear Words: A Case Study at Binus International School by Maria Fe S Nicolau and Katharina Endriati Sukamto in 2014. The study focused on the types of swearing spoken by men and women, looked for similar swearing often uttered by both genders, and investigated whether men or women were swearing frequently. A second study was titled The Use of Swear words by Women: A Study of Single-Sex and Mix Sex Conversations by Pia Gati in 2014. The results of this study showed that it turns out that womenswear more often when in same-sex friendship environments, what swear words women often say, and the function of swear words spoken by women. The third study was titled Bad Language in Reality: A Study of Swear Words, Expletives, and Gender in Reality Television by Anna Falthammar Schippers in 2013. This study's findings tend to debunk perceptions that women are less probable than men to use swear words. The fourth study was titled Attitudes to Swearwords: Gender Differences Among Native and Non-native Speakers of English by Helena Sollid in 2009. The researcher looked into whether Swedish men and women use distinct English swearwords differently.

This thesis digs deeper into the swear words said by the male and female characters in Uncut Gems movie. In addition, the study also aimed to see if there are differences in the use of swear words used by women and men. The research look at the swear words in the movie in the context of the society shown in it. The researcher is interested to see the differences between the swear words spoken by male and female characters.

This study looked into three primary objectives in the Uncut Gems movie: the types of swear words, the reasons for using swear words, and the differences between male and female swear words. The researcher refers to Ljung's classification of swear words to address the first study question. The researcher next used the reference from Rothwell (1973) to use swear words to get the answer to the second research problem. For the last research question, the researcher looked up different theories stated in the previous sub-chapter about swear words and gender. The problem of the research is formulated as what are the types, purposes, and differences in swear words between men and women in the Uncut Gems movie. Researchers who want to do similar research can use the information in this research as a reference because it offers information about the sorts of swear words, the purposes of uttering swear words, and their correlation with gender.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research employed the descriptive-qualitative method. The data of this research were words, phrases, clauses, and sentences consisting of swear words which were selected from the dialogues of male and female characters in the Uncut Gems movie. While the source of data was the script of the Uncut Gems movie.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION
1. Research Finding

The Types of Swear Words by Male and Female Characters

No	Types	Male		Female	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	Expletive Interjection	29	10%	7	25%
2	Curses	28	10%	3	11%
3	Unfriendly Suggestion	8	3%	0	0%
4	Name-Calling	23	8%	2	7%
5	Adjective/Adverbial Intensifier	14	5%	5	18%
6	Adjective of Dislike	24	9%	2	7%
7	Emphasis	118	42%	8	29%
8	Anaphoric Use of Epithet	38	13%	1	3%
TOTAL		282	100%	28	100%

The study showed there are two types of swear words found in this research, they are stand-alone and slot-filler. In the stand-alone type, swear words

are divided into four sub-groups, namely 35 data for expletive interjection, 31 data for curses, 8 data for the unfriendly suggestion, and 25 data for name-calling.

Based on gender, in this type, male characters say swear words 87 times while female characters only say 12 times. The male characters most often say expletive interjection and curses, which is 28 times. Almost the same as male characters, the type of swear words that are most often spoken by female characters is also expletive interjection 7 times. This finding shows that in this type, both male and female characters tend to use the stand-alone type to release the emotions felt by the speaker.

In the slot-filler type of swear words, the male character swears 194 times, in contrast to the female character who only swears 16 times throughout the film. Swearing with the Emphasis function is the most widely used by male characters, 114 times. Interestingly, swear words with the Emphasis function are also used the most by female characters, namely 9 times.

This finding shows that both male and female characters use the slot-filler type of swearing to emphasize each noun in the sentence they say so that the interlocutor understands what he is talking about.

The Purpose of Swear Words by Male and Female Characters

No	Purposes of Swearing	Male		Female	
		Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
1	To Create Attention	76	27%	7	27%
2	To Discredit	66	24%	5	19%
3	To Provoke	35	12%	5	19%
4	To Create Interpersonal Identification	34	12%	0	0%
5	To Provide Catharsis	69	25%	9	35%
	Total	280	100%	26	100%

Based on the research findings above, the researchers found that there are five purposes of swear words in Uncut Gems movie. The five purposes are to create attention as much as 83 data, to discredit as much as 71 data, to provoke as much as 40 data, to create interpersonal identification as much as 34 data, and finally to provide catharsis as much as 78 data. Based on gender, the purpose of swear words that are most often used by male characters is to create attention while the least is to create interpersonal identification. The purpose of swear words that are most often used by female characters is to provide catharsis while the least is to discredit and provoke. This is because, throughout the film, male characters are very dominant both in terms of screen time and personality. In the Uncut Gems movie, it is shown that each male character is very passionate in every field, for example, Howard with his jewelry and basketball gambling, Arno and his man with Howard's debts, Demany with his money, and KG with his

popularity, self-esteem, and basketball. So, when these male characters meet, they tend to attract the attention of their surroundings to make them the center of attention. As for the female characters, they tend to use swear words more as their reactive action and as a means of releasing the emotions they are feeling**.**

The Differences Between Male and Female Swear Words

No	Items	Male	Female
1	Type 1. Emphasis	118 (42%)	8 (29%)
2	Purpose 1. To Create Attention	76 (27%)	7 (27%
	2. To Provide Catharsis	69 (25%)	9 (35%)

The findings above show that male characters utter swear words more dominantly than female characters. Yet, it turns out that when talking about the types of swear words, both male and female characters in the Uncut Gems film use a slot filler type with the most Emphasis function compared to other types, 42% for males and 29% for females. These findings show that both male and female characters tend to be more aggressive when uttering swear words. However, when it comes to the variety and range of swear words themselves, it appears that male characters do use more than female characters. Female characters mostly use swear words like fuck, shit, and motherfucker. While male characters mostly use fuck, bullshit, goddamn, cocksucker, ass, damn, etc.
But when talking about the purpose of swearing, it turns out that male and female characters had different goals. The most dominant purpose of swearing by male characters is to create attention 27%, while the most dominant purpose of swearing by female characters is to provide catharsis 35%.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

After analyzing the data based on Ljung's theory, the researcher found that the types of swear words between male and female characters in Uncut Gems show the same result. Both male and female characters in the movie utilize emphasize function in slot-filler type the most throughout the movie. Interestingly, what drives them to utter swear words is different. Male characters tend to use swear words for creating attention as their purpose. In contrast, female characters tend to use swear words for providing them with catharsis to their purpose. The researcher also found that are some differences between male and female swear words in the movie. Male characters tend to use a lot more swear words rather than females. Yet, female characters use swear words as bold as the male but in fewer numbers and less variety and range than males.

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