

**A SOCIO-SEMANTIC ANALYSIS OF ENGLISH SLANG WORD
USED IN RAP MUSIC EMINEM SONGS**



RESEARCH PAPER

**Submitted as a Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for Getting Bachelor Degree of Education
in English Department**

by

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2008**

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background of the Study

Song generally conveys message and meanings. The composer needs time to think, to choose the words, to read, what she or he writes, to rethink, revise and arrange it. Then he or she considers its effect on the listener. Songs have special characteristic in their lyric. Each lyric is created to have nuance. Beside most of English songs have imaginative quality by using simile. One of the examples of simile is in the lyric of Bob Marley *Sun is Shining*. In lyric above the writer has a power to perform his admiration about the beautiful morning.

The sentences of a certain of the song are also shortened and unfinished. Sometimes, the sentences are not grammatical either. However, the composer also arranges a group of words correctly and chooses them in order to complete the idea of the songs. As usual, he or she has provenience to choose words for getting the beautiful lyrics.

Unlike the general English songs, the lyrics of Rap music's mostly do not consists of simile as in those of general English songs. However, there are more less similarities and differences among them. Like the Eminem songs that tell human activity, loves has plagued, and sneaky lyrics. In those Eminem songs the sentences structure and the choice of word not only push forward imaginative quality but follows the reality of life. This rap music

mostly uses non-standard English which tends to be vulgar, lazy pronunciation and it is often said as bad, incorrect and poor English. Mostly some of the words in the lyric are slang words.

According to Widarso (1998: 58) slang is a Non-standard word be familiar and used in a group, for example, a group of teenagers, a group of university students the composer of music. In the formal of language, *gadis* is a girl, this word have a slang is a chick. One of the main purposes of using slang is to write one's identification with a group. Slang usually be appears in a arbitrary, slang word more long live, more expressive than standard word.

The lyric of Rap song by Eminem frequently uses slang words, such as in the title of a song *Shake that ass* means bottom. The uneducated and working class people, such as any occupation group of workers, peasants, tramps and criminal breakers usually use it. Slang is not supposed to be spoken at school, holy place, law court offices, and any other official places. The following are some examples of slang words taken from the lyric of song by Eminem.

Two to the one from the one to the three
 I like Good *pussy* and I like Good trees
 Smoke so much weed you wouldn't believe
 And I get more *ass* than a toilet seat (Relax)
 Three to the one from the one to the three
 I met a bad *bitch* last night in the D (Horn woman)
 Let me tell you how I made her leave with me
 Conversation and Hennessey
 I've been to the *muthafuckin* mountain top
 Heard *muthafuckers* talk, seen 'em drop
 If I ain't got a weapon *I'ma* pick up a rock
 And when I bust *yo* ass I'm gonna continue to rock
Getcha ass of the wall with your two left feet

It's real easy just follow the beat
 Don't let that fine girl pass you by
 Look real close cause strobe lights lie

Based on the example lyric above, the writer has to analyze about the comparison between lexical and contextual meaning and the characteristic of slang.

Example of characteristic slang used in Eminem songs

With → *wit* (08/M), (03/GB), (09/RU), (05/JCC), (07/S.M.W), (12/W.Y.W)

The first characteristics of slang according to Wardhaugh: voice (ð) is substituted by other voices, meanwhile (ð) in Eminem songs can be substituted by some other voices. For the first one, (ð) is substituted by [t], it occurred in the final syllable of “with”, “with is written wit and it is pronounced [wit]

The example of lexical and contextual meaning of slang used in Eminem songs.

Shyt I'll bust, even the **bitch** that came with us (04/M)
 Shit shattered, I'ma walking **bitch** magnet (01/YDK)
 I met a bad **bitch** last nigh in the D (05/SAL)
 Get them **bitches** out they pants, I did it with no hands
 (03/THI)
 You can't fathom what the **bitch** throwin at him
 (03/THI)
 I was Revibed as soon as this **bitch** gyrated (05/ShT)
 Looking for a couple **bitches** with some double D's
 (05/ShT)
 Two **bitches** at the club talk shit at your funeral (03/GL)
 The **bitch** shouldn't have been in the way (02/GB)
 Bein a celebrity bring me more **bitches** (05/EIS)
 Jump a **bitch** desk, strangle her neck (02/RU)
 Sly what the fuck a slick sick son of a **bitch** (02/JCC)
Bitch please this is stash house, jack pot, leave her
 them keys (03/SMW)

The word '**bitch**' in the data above is a slang word. According to the context uttered of those data, the real meaning of '**bitch**' has changed into new different meaning. Lexically '**bitch**' means female dog, fox, otter or wolf. Meanwhile in contextual meaning of Eminem song lyric above '**bitch**' means a horn woman. Based on the changed of meaning the new meaning of '**bitch**' is broader than its real meaning.

By looking at the slang words lyrics above, some people who use English as a second of a foreign language may get confused in comprehending the theme and the meaning of song lyrics, since the slang words have the specific meaning.

Departing from the phenomenon above the writer is interested in conducting a research concerning to the use English slangs words in Rap music's. Her research entitles "A Socio Semantic Analysis of English Slang Word Used in Rap Music (Eminem Songs)".

B. Previous Study

Actually the writer is not the first who analyzes English slang word. But it does not mean that the writer only plagiarizes the previous study. To prove the originality of the research the writer shows the previous studies.

The study of English slang word has been conducted by graduated students of teacher training and education faculty of Muhammadiyah University of Surakarta. They have the same topic or subject that is slang word but it is different in using theory to discuss it. The first research belongs to Sukatmo (2002) in his research “Afro American Black Language Analysis of the Novel the Bluest Eye by Tony Marrison”. He describes the linguistics forms of the language used in conversation in the “Bluest Eye” by Tony Marrison. He finds the characteristic of Black English and Language structure as well as its pronunciation.

The second is Sutarmo (2007) in his research “A Linguistics Analysis of Slang Words Used in Rap Music (Snoop Dogg Songs)”. He focuses on a linguistics analysis characteristic, lexical, and contextual meaning of slang word used in Rap Music (Snoop Dogg Songs). He finds the characteristic of slang and comparison between lexical meaning and contextual meaning about English slang words used in Snoop Dogg Songs.

Based on the second previous study above, the writer is interested in doing the same research concerning to the use English slangs words in rap music but in different the data. This study is meant to develop the absence of the topic. It is to identify the characteristic of slang and to describe the lexical and contextual meaning of slang word use in Eminem songs.

C. Problem Statement

Knowing the problem is the most important part in the research the writer decides some problem that will be discussed here. In this research the writer formulates the research problem as follows:

1. What are the characteristics of slang used in Eminem songs?
2. What are the lexical and contextual meanings of slang words used in Eminem songs?

D. Objectives of the Study

In carrying this research, the writer formulates the objective of the study as follows:

1. to identify the characteristics of slang used in Eminem songs
2. to describe the lexical and contextual meanings of slang words used in Eminem songs.

E. Limitation of the Problem

1. Coverage

In this research, the writer limits the study on English slang word used in rap music Eminem songs.

2. The Framework of Analysis

The framework of the study is socio-semantic. The writer analyzes the English slang word by referring the characteristic of slang used in rap

music by using semantic analysis, especially the lexical and contextual meaning used in Eminem songs.

F. Benefit of the Study

The writer really hopes that his research on the slang words has some benefit to the writer herself and the readers in general. The research is expected to be benefit for:

1. Theoretically Benefit
 - a. Giving some contributions to the enlargement of the slang words.
 - b. Giving more information about slang to the students
 - c. Providing students with rich information or references about slang
2. Practically
 - a. The result of the study becomes one of the references in studying of contextual meaning particularly slang words.
 - b. The elaboration of this research will be useful for another researcher to conduct a study for the same topic.

G. Organization of the Paper

The writer divides her research paper into five chapters.

The first chapter is introduction. It contains background of the study, previous study, problem statements, objectives of the study, limitation of the problem, benefit of the study, and organization of research paper.

The second chapter is underlying of theory. It deals with notion of slang, notion of socio semantics and notion of Eminem.

The third chapter is research methods. It consists of type of research, object, data and the data source, method of data collection, and technique of data analysis.

The fourth chapter is research result and discussion. It elaborates the characteristics of slang words and the contextual meaning of slang words based on the context situation of song by Eminem.

The fifth chapter presents conclusion and suggestion.