

**A SOCIO-PRAGMATIC ANALYSIS OF ABUSIVE UTTERANCES  
IN COMEDY MOVIE MANUSCRIPT**



**Research Paper**

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*by*

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# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. Background of the Study

People speak and convey their thought in various ways. Sometimes they speak about the rude statement used to gain other's emotion. Someone may even do these things in joking manner. Although do in joking manner, this rude statement belongs to abusive utterances. The abuser is seeking to control both the victim's actions and the victim's emotions. Abusive according to Oxford Learner's Pocket Dictionary (2003: 2) belongs to adjective, which means, "using rude or cruel words". Meanwhile, the abusive utterances as defined by *way2hope.org* (retrieved in 9 December 2009, at 11.20 p.m) "abusive utterances is the power of words to cause serious and often permanent harm".

Meanwhile, a good movie has good story, good actors, good actresses, good language and give the audience a visual and real life to experience. Usually, learners of English are suggested to watch movies in English, because those movies generally show daily life of people from English speaking countries. As their scripts are verbal, those movies can work as a great help for learners of English to improve their language competence from the point of pragmatics. *The Pacifier* is just one of them, in which instances of

implicature are in full play in this movie. The writer uses the implicature theory, cooperative principle, and politeness strategy in analyzing the abusive utterances uttered by the speaker. Meanwhile, all those theories is under the umbrella of pragmatics field.

According to Yule (1996: 3), “Pragmatics is concerned with the study of meaning as communicated by a speaker (or writer) and interpreted by a listener (or reader) physical production of linguistics behavior.”

In the source of study, the researcher takes, the major utterances used is the abusive utterances. The other definition explaining about abusive utterances:

Abusive statements are used to gain or maintain control. Abusive statements are meant to push your buttons, provoke you and throw you off guard. Things such as anger, guilt, disappointment, jealousy and regret are often used by abusers to get your goat. Even in some cultures there is the proverb: *make him stupid, make him angry*.

([www.associatedcontent.com](http://www.associatedcontent.com), retrieved in 9<sup>th</sup> December 2009, at 11.20 p.m)

From the quotations above, abusive utterances actually deals with the rude statements which is used to gain or maintain other’s emotion. Meanwhile, in daily life people often communicate in any different situations included upset, angry, or even anguish. In the factual world, people massively meet some annoyed expressions such as words or phrases or actions to reject someone or to make someone feel unimportant, e.g. ignoring. It can be illustrated as when people are saying things such as "Who wants to be with

you?" or "No one would go out with you,". Meanwhile, the other case of abusive utterances often met are not allowing someone to sit with the abuser; not allowing someone to join in certain events, saying people with disabilities, and the other rude statement ignoring and hurting someone else.

When someone telling some others, a different race or ethnicity to get 'back to where they came from', being rude and unfriendly with others, unconsciously s/he has done such kind of abusive language. As well as, telling someone who has a facial or body defect in front of the public that s/he is causing discomfort to other customers also any other illustration of abusive language.

A man who is blaming his friend by saying "You're just trying to start a fight", is delivering a rude statement. The speaker uses abusive language to show up her/his emotion in order to get other people's emotion. The following is other example of abusive utterances that the writer finds in comedy movie manuscript:

This conversation happens in Suburban Street –afternoon. A taxi door opens. He steps from the taxi onto a cute troll doll on the sidewalk. It squeaks. Then, Shane double-checks the address. The sprinklers go off. Shane darts to the door and rings the bell (it is one of those cheerful doorbells). There is a tiny feet approach, and then the door swings open. Shane looks down and sees Lulu, 8, peering up at him. Shane eyes Lulu. Lulu eyes Shane, then:

**Lulu** : Mom! There's some **weird bald** guy at the door!

The first utterance by Lulu" Mom! There's some **weird bald** guy at the door!. " while she is screaming, is the abusive utterances. Lulu heaps abuse upon Shane, the Lieutenant who is going to be staying with her family

for a while, to save them from the robber of her father's data. Lulu shuts the door in Shane's face. Shane frowns. Lulu does an action of lowering Shane who looks like a weird person, a bad ass.

While the second conversation occurs in the Principal's Office. Todd and Zoe got a call from their principal because they have missed twenty-two driver's Ed classes out of twenty-three.

**Shane** : Wolfe. Shane. Lietnant. I'm in charge of watching these kids for.... a few days

**Murney** : **Baby-sitter huh.** Well, whatever work you can get.

The utterance by Murney, Zoe's vice-principal "Baby-sitter huh. Well, whatever work you can get. " belongs to abusive utterances. Murney is a boasting vice principal. He always lowers Shane's self-esteem by saying that Shane is baby sitter. At that time Shane has to take care the baby, Tyler. In this case, Murney has not known who Shane is. He regards that Shane is ordinary person, who suddenly come to his office to guard Todd and Zoe, the worst students in that school who has missed twenty-two driver's Ed classes out of twenty-three. Murney does actions to belittle and ridicule over Shane who notabene is a Lieutenant. This type of abusive language lowers self-esteem and often leaves the partner feeling insignificant.

Based on the cases above the writer intends to deepen finding the implicature beyond abusive utterances found in comedy movie. The reason why the writer chooses comedy movie is because in that movie many abusive utterances are spoken. Moreover, from that kind of abusive utterances is going to add the sense of humor of the movie. The researcher proposes to focus her

scientific research in analyzing abusive utterances of movie manuscript under the theory of Socio-Pragmatics. Eventually, the title of this research is **Socio-Pragmatic Analysis on Abusive Utterances Used in Comedy Movie Manuscript.**

## **B. Previous Study**

The research in which the researcher wants to focus is not the first research that concern with Socio-Pragmatics. In fact, it is further research that tries to analyze a specific case about speech actions under theory of Socio-Pragmatics. Therefore, the researcher presents several previous studies that have similarities in applying the theory of Socio-Pragmatics.

The first previous study was conducted by Lilis Kusumawati (UMS, 2004). The researcher took *A Study of Abusive Language in Drama Films*. In her research, she analyzes the referents of abusive language, the intention and the reason of using abusive language appearing in drama movie manuscript. Her finding is that there are ten referents of abusive language, namely word related to animal, part of body, sex organ, excrement, personal background, mental illness, sex activity, religion, people, and blaspheme. She also found 11 intentions of abusive utterances; describing, sorrow, pleasure, informing, committing, commanding, requesting, warning, instructing, ordering, recommending. And then the last finding is 7 findings of reason of uttering abusive utterances. There are showing annoyance, showing power, showing

anger, showing derogatory, showing surprise, showing intimacy, and showing mocking.

The second research was written by Muhammad Nur Cholis (UMS, 2007). In his research, he took *A Socio-Pragmatic Analysis on Blaming and Accusation Utterances of Black American's Speech in Movie Manuscript*. The research focuses on describing the type, intention, and reasons of blaming and accusation utterances used in Black American movie manuscript. The finding is that they are 4 types of blaming utterances; direct blaming uttered in statement, indirect blaming utterance uttered in statement, direct blaming utterance uttered in question, indirect blaming utterance uttered in question. Besides, there are also types of accusation utterance; direct accusation uttered in statement, indirect accusation uttered in statement, direct accusation uttered in question. Meanwhile, the intention of blaming utterance are asserting, humiliating, showing confusion, questioning, requesting. While the intention of accusation utterance are asserting, questioning, humiliating. The next problem, the reasons of blaming utterance includes showing anger and annoyance, showing annoyance, showing underestimation, showing confusion, showing surprise, showing firmness and showing frustration. While the reasons of accusation utterances are ; showing anger and annoyance, showing anger, showing firmness, showing annoyance, showing underestimation, showing conviction, showing desperation, showing suspiciousness.

Based on those researches, the researcher modifies them into a new subject to study. In this research, the researcher takes the same field of study, Socio-Pragmatic and the researcher uses the same category of utterances with the first study, namely abusive utterances.

From those two previous studies, the writer can conclude and find the similarities and differences. With the first previous study by Lilis Kusumawati, the similarity is on the kind of utterances to analyze. Meanwhile the differences are located in the data, data source and the problems being analyzed. Kusumawati's data is the abusive language in drama movie; meanwhile this research's data is abusive utterances in comedy movie manuscript. Meanwhile the problem will be analyzed in this research is the implicature and the politeness strategy of using abusive language. It is different from Kusumawati's problems; the referents, the intention and the reason using abusive language.

However, from the second previous study, this research shares in common on the kind of utterances. Blaming and accusation utterances are sort of abusive utterances. Meanwhile, the difference is on the source of data, data analysis and problem statement. Cholis' data is from blaming and accusation utterances in Black American movie manuscript. His problem is the type and intention of blaming and accusation utterance conveyed by the speaker. Meanwhile, this research concerns in the implicature of the utterances and in the politeness strategy of the speaker. As a result, the researcher intends to



study **Socio-Pragmatic Analysis on Abusive Utterances Used in Comedy Movie Manuscript.**

**C. Research Focus**

Based on the background above, the research problems focus on:

1. What are the forms of abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript?
2. What are the implicature of abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript? and,
3. What are the politeness strategies of speaker in addressing abusive utterances used in comedy movie manuscript?

**D. Objective of the Study**

The objectives of the study intended by the researcher are as follows:

1. To describe the form of abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript,
2. To describe the implicature of abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript, and
3. To describe the politeness strategies of speaker in addressing abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript.

## **E. Benefit of the Study**

The researcher expects this research will give benefit for the students. There are two benefits, namely academic significance and practical significance. They are as follows:

### 1. Academic Significance.

- a. The findings of this research will give contribution in Socio-Pragmatics study, especially in implicature and politeness strategy of abusive utterances found in movie manuscripts.
- b. This research is expected to be helpful in giving some more knowledge and enrich the theories in Socio-pragmatic, especially about abusive utterances and its implicature found in movie manuscript.

### 2. Practical Significance

- a. The readers will recognize the implicature of speaker in addressing abusive utterances found in movie manuscript.
- b. The readers will know the politeness strategies of speaker in addressing abusive utterances found in movie manuscript.
- c. The result of this research will be used for the next researcher in analyzing the implicature and the abusive utterances as the reference.

## **F. Limitation of the Study**

In doing her research, the researcher limits the discussion by focusing on the analysis of Socio-Pragmatics of abusive utterances found in comedy movie manuscript.

However, the theories, which used are implicature, politeness strategy, and preagmatics context by Hymes. Therefore, the framework of this study is socio-pragmatics. This research will only deal with abusive utterances. The writer chooses it because there has not been the research that analyzes the form, implicature and politeness strategy of abusive utterances viewed from the pragmatics approach. She will analyze the form, implicature and politeness strategy of abusive utterances.

## **G. Research Paper Organization**

To ease the reader when reading this research, the writer is going to organize this research into table of content. The content of this research will be as follows:

Chapter I is introduction. It consists of background of the study, previous study, problem statements, objective of the study, limitation of the study, benefit of the study, and the research organization.

Chapter II is underlying theory. It deals with the notion of Socio-Pragmatics, pragmatic's principle, cooperative principle, context of pragmatics, politeness strategy, classification of speech acts, abusive utterances and type of sentence.

Chapter III is the research method. It consists of the type of research, object of research, data and data source, the technique of collecting data, and the technique of analyzing data.

Chapter IV is data analysis. In this part, the writer will show and describe the data analysis and the discussion of research finding.

Chapter V is conclusion and suggestion. It is as the final result of this research.