

CONDOLENCE EXPRESSION ON THE MOSLEM ASSASSINATION IN CHRISTCHURCH MOSQUES ON TWITTER

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Abstrak

Tujuan penelitian ini adalah untuk mendeskripsikan jenis ungkapan belasungkawa dan tujuan ucapan belasungkawa yang digunakan oleh pengguna twitter pada berita tentang pembunuhan masal umat muslim di beberapa masjid di Christchurch. Penelitian ini adalah descriptive qualitative dan mengumpulkan data dari komentar belasungkawa di twitter tentang pembunuhan masal pada umat muslim di beberapa masjid daerah Christchurch. Peneliti kemudian menganalisis data menggunakan teori Elwood (2004) untuk mendeskripsikan ucapan belasungkawa dan menggunakan teori Searle (1979) untuk mendeskripsikan tujuan dalam ungkapan belasungkawa. Berdasarkan dari 60 komentar yang sudah disaring, peneliti menemukan enam tipe belasungkawa yaitu acknowledgement of the death (26,7%), expression of sympathy (50%), offer of assistance (1,7%), future-oriented remark (3,3%), expression of concern (3,3%), other (positive statement) (1,7%), dan combination (13,3%). Sementara itu, untuk tujuan dari ucapan belasungkawa, peneliti menemukan enam tujuan dari ucapan belasungkawa dan ucapan belasungkawa, yaitu representative (16,7%): asserting, claiming; directive (1,7%): advising; commissive (3,3%): promising; expressive (58,3%): praising, condoling; combination intentions (20%).

Kata kunci: pragmatik, ucapan, tujuan, belasungkawa, Twitter.

Abstract

The purpose of this research is to describe the type of condolence expression and the intentions of condolence utterance used by the twitter users for the news of moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques. This research is descriptive qualitative, the researcher collected the data from the condolence comments in twitter about the news of moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques. The researcher then, analyzed the data using theory of Elwood (2004) to describe the strategies of condolence utterance and using theory of Searle (1979) to describe the intentions of condolence utterance. Based on 60 filtered comments, the researcher found six types of condolence strategies namely an acknowledgement of the death (26,7%), expression of sympathy (50%), offer of assistance (1,7%), future-oriented remark (3,3%), expression of concern (3,3%), other (positive statement) (1,7%), and combination (13,3%). Meanwhile, for the intentions of condolence utterance, the researcher found six intentions of condolence utterance and combination namely; Representative (16,7%): asserting, claiming. Directive (1,7%): advising. Commissive (3,3%): promising. Expressive (58,3%): praising, condoling. The last is combination intentions (20%).

Keywords: pragmatic, speech act, intention, condolence, twitter.

1. INTRODUCTION

A terrible incident happened on 15 March 2019 in New Zealand during the Friday prayer. There was an attack which was conducted by a single gunman who entered both mosque (Al Noor Mosque and Linwood Islamic Centre). He killed 51 person and injured 40 people. Brenton Harrison Tarrant (28 years old) from Australia was arrested shortly afterward. He initially pleaded not guilty to all charges, with the trial expected to start on 2 June 2020. He was

sentenced to life imprisonment without the possibility of parole on 27 August 2020. The Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern described this terrible incident as “one of New Zealand’s darkest day”. Christchurch mosque shootings incident left a great wounds and grieves for all the people in the world. Many people saw the grief of the victims through any social media included Twitter. This terrible video of grief posted in social media, invited people all over the world gave comments. The most frequently appear comment given by the social media users are condolence.

Most people find it hard to express or just have the bravery to offered their condolence to those who lost the love one, and many hearers sometimes find that others don’t understand their situations (Williams, 2006). Uttering a meaningful sentiment, such as condolence, is something personal depending on the relationships between individual and the bereaved (Pishghadam & Morady Moghaddam, 2012). Giving an appropriate condolence phrase at the right time can be a challenging task. It is because the language used in highly emotional situations may different from casual conversation. Pishghadam, Ghanizadeh, and Moghaddam (2012) also mentioned condolence routines become more complicated due to several factors such as relations among individuals and cultural traits.

Condolence is part of the speech act under pragmatic studies. (Yule, 1996) states that speech act is a theory which analyzes an action performed via utterance. In speech act, communication depends not only on recognizing the meaning of words in an utterance, but also recognizing what speakers mean by their utterance. However, Austin also stated that “speech act is divided into three levels, they are locutionary act, illocutionary act, and perlocutionary act” (as cited in Yule, 1996, p.48).

Illocutionary act is first introduced into linguistics by J.L Austin in his investigation of the various aspects of speech acts. Illocutionary means the utterance that the speaker says to the hearer in the context, which contains an implicit meaning and not the literal meaning of the sentence. For example, someone the speaker says “It’s raining outside.” Then, the hearer give an umbrella to the speaker. However the literal meaning of the speaker is just giving information but in the illocutionary act it has the requesting meaning, so the hearer has to take action. Furthermore, (Searle, 1979) conduct the classification of illocutionary acts into five: Assertive, Directive, Commissive, Expressive, and Declarations.

Based on the explanation about the incident above, the researcher decided to identify the strategies of condolence utterances and the classification of intentions explained in illocutionary act which involved in the condolence utterances used by people in Twitter on the moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques. However, the researcher proposes a research

which focus on those two topics entitled “Condolence Expression On The Moslem Assassination In Christchurch Mosques On Twitter”.

2. METHOD

This research is a descriptive qualitative research. The object of this research is the news of the moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques on twitter. The data of this research were taken from the condolence comments in Twitter about the assassination in Christchurch mosques. Document analysis was used for collecting data. The researcher analyzed the data based on Elwood, (2004) for the strategies of condolence and Searle (1979) for the intentions of condolence utterance.

3. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Finding

This sub chapter the researcher explain the findings of condolence utterance which expressed by people in twitter on the moslem assassination in Christchurch mosque. The condolences are classified based on the objective of the study which is to describe the types of condolence strategies and the intention of expressing condolence utterance used by people in twitter.

3.1.1 The Types of Condolence Strategies

There are six types of condolence strategies by Elwood (2004) which used by the people in twitter, there are acknowledgement of the death, expression of sympathy, offer of assistance, future-oriented remark, expression of concern, other (positive statement), and one additional type from the researcher called combination. The detailed result can be seen in the table below:

Table 1. Data Finding The Types of Condolence Strategies

No.	Types of Condolence Strategies	Example	Amount	Percentages %
1.	Acknowledgement of The Death	<i>My thoughts are with all affected this cruel act.</i>	16	26,7%
2.	Expression of Sympathy	<i>So very sorry.</i>	30	50%
3.	Offer of Assistance	<i>Be there for them. Check in. Perhaps extend a kind gesture at your local mosque.</i>	1	1,7%
4.	Future-oriented Remark	<i>CA stands with New Zealand and Muslim everywhere.</i>	2	3,3%
5.	Expression of Concern	<i>Thinking of everyone down in Christchurch.</i>	2	3,3%

6.	'Other'	<i>We have all been fortunate to spend time in Christchurch and felt the warm, open-hearted and generous spirit that is core to its remarkable people.</i>	1	1,7%
No.	Types of Condolence Strategies	Example	Amount	Percentages %
1.	Combination	<i>New Zealand. One of the most wonderful places in the world full of kind and gentle people. My heart is breaking hearing this horrifying news.</i>	8	13,3%
		Total	60	100%

3.1.2 The Intentions of Condolence Utterance

There are five illocutionary act classifications which have each intention explained by Searle (1979) namely representative, directive, commissive, expressive, and declarative. The researcher found four out of five illocutionary act classifications of intention there are representative (asserting and claiming), directive (commanding), commissive (promising), expressive (praising and condoling), and one additional classification called as combination. In this research, the researcher did not found the declarative form. Here are the detailed result below:

Table 2. Data Finding The Intention of Condolence Utterance

No.	Illocutionary Act (The Intention)	Example	Amount	Percentages %
1.	Representative	<i>New Zealand's darkest day. #Christchurch (the intention of claiming)</i>	10	16,7%
2.	Directive	<i>Morning (Friday) is Jummah, the weekly day of worship for our community of Muslim friends and loved ones. Be there for them. Check in. Perhaps extend a kind gesture at your local mosque. There is so much fear and hate. We must negate it with active, courageous love</i>	1	1,7%

		<i>(the intention of commanding)</i>		
3.	Commissive	<i>40 dead in NZ. Senseless, pointless, cruel deaths. My heart breaks for all the families involved, and for the beautiful people of New Zealand to whose heart this pain will attach, for a long time. Kia Kaha.</i> <i>(the intention of promising)</i>	2	3,3%
4.	Expressive	<i>So very sorry.</i> <i>(the intention of condoling)</i>	35	58,3%
No.	Illocutionary Act (The Intention)	Example	Amount	Percentages %
1.	Combination	<i>Shocked and strongly condemn the Christchurch, New Zealand, terrorist attack on mosques. This reaffirms what we have always maintained: that terrorism does not have a religion. Prayers go to the victims and their families.</i> <i>(the intention of asserting and condoling)</i>	12	20%
		Total	60	100%

3.2 Discussion

The objectives of the research were to describe the type of condolence expression and the intentions of condolence utterance for the moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques. The first objective is to describe the type of condolence strategies used in Twitter comments on a news about moslem assassination in Christchurch mosques. The researcher used the theory of condolence strategies by Elwood (2004). There are six types of condolence strategies proposed by Elwood (2004) and one additional type, namely an acknowledgement of the death, expression of sympathy, offer of assistance, future-oriented remark, expression of concern, other (positive statement). The researcher used this theory because the theory is easy to understand and compatible for data analyzing. The result of this study showed that twitter users conveyed the condolence utterance with six types and combination of condolence strategies.

The findings were similar to the previous studies (Suci, 2018). She used condolence strategies to categorize the condolence utterance in Facebook comments from the news “Mexico Earthquake Death Toll Surpasses 200”.

The second objective is to describe the intentions of condolence utterance. The researcher used Searle’s theory (1979) to describe the intentions of condolence utterance. There are five intentions of condolence based on the illocutionary act stated by Searle (1979), but the researcher did not find one of the intentions named declarative from the data in this study. The result of this study showed that the intentions of condolence utterance used four illocutionary acts and other combination intentions. From the results of this study, it can also be concluded that the condolence utterances are not only means to condole but also have deeper intentions for the hearers.

The result of the present study differs from previous studies (Holiman, 2013). The purpose of his research is to discover the extent to which online postings expressing grief about death reflect the traditional forms of eulogy. This study found that individuals not only felt a strong connection, but also instinctively expressed their grief in a way that reflected the traditional forms of eulogies.

Another difference from previous studies is (Hamidreza & Jamshid, 2018) aims of their study is to report a descriptive comparison of expressing condolence and sympathy in terms of conversation analysis (CA) used by Persian and English native speakers’ side to determine whether and to what extent inter-language realization of speech acts of condolence and sympathy resemble or differ among them. Henceforth, a total of twenty bereaved families (ten from Iran and ten from America) were selected for the purpose of comparing condolence and sympathy expressions. The results of obtained data of the study indicated that there was no significant difference between the two groups. There was only a bit difference in the amount of emotional expressions and the length of expressions. Overall, this showed that Persian speakers were more emotional compared to their US counterpart families in the speech acts of sympathy and condolence.

In summary, the most important finding of this study is to demonstrate that a written expression of condolence can constitute a speech event because it contains two or more illocutionary acts in one statement.

4. CLOSING

The researcher concluded different types of condolence strategies and intentions of condolence utterance used by Twitter’s users in the news of Muslim assassination in Christchurch mosque.

The researcher used Elwood's (2004) theory in analyzing the strategies of condolence and Searle's (1979) theory for analyzing the intentions of the condolence utterances. After collecting the data from the comments in twitter, the researcher found 60 data that contains the strategies of condolence and the intentions of condolence utterances.

First, the researcher conclude that there are six types of condolence strategies and combination types which used by the twitter's users for the news about moslem assassination in Christchurch mosque. The most dominant type of condolence strategy that used by the twitter's users is expression of sympathy with 30 datas (50%). The second type is, acknowledgement of the death with 16 datas (26,7%). The next type is combination with 8 datas (13,3%). Then, there are future-oriented remark with two datas (3,3%) and expression of concern with the same amount which is two datas (3,3%). For the lowest type of condolence which used by twitter's users are offer of assistance and other (positive statement) both have the same amount which is one data (1,7%).

Second, the researcher come to the conclusion that there are six intentions of each illocutionary act classification and seven combination of 60 data. The intentions are asserting, claiming, advising, promising, praising, condoling. The combination intentions are asserting and condoling, reporting and condoling, condoling and commanding, condoling and claiming, condoling and advising, condoling and requesting, condoling and praising. The most dominant illocutionary intention is expressive with 35 datas (58,3%) which contains one data of praising and 34 datas of condoling. Next is from combination with 12 datas (20%) which contains four datas combination of asserting and condoling intentions, two datas combination of condoling and commanding, two datas of reporting and condoling, one data for each combination of condoling and claiming, condoling and advising, condoling and requesting, condoling and praising. Then, 10 datas (16,7%) of representative which contains nine datas of asserting and one data of claiming. Commissive with two datas (3,3%) which contains two datas of promising intentions. The lowest kind of intention is directive with one data (1,7%) which contains advising intention.

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