ABSTRACT

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University Student from West Java in Surabaya will not always use Sundanese language in communication because the dominant language in Surabaya is Javanese language. Thus, they have to choose the most appropriate language to be used in different situations and to different people. The aim of this study is to describe the language choice among members of West Java Student Community in Surabaya and the factors influencing their choice. To obtain the data, the writer conducts the research through observation, questionnaire, and interview. The research sample is taken from the whole population by purposive sampling based on some criteria. In analyzing the data, the writer uses Holme's theory (2008) about social factors and social dimensions contributing to language choice. The result shows that there are three languages used by the participants in different domains, namely Sundanese, Javanese, and Indonesia language. Then, there are some factors which influence the participants in choosing a particular language to be used. Addresser or participant contributes to the language choice of the participants almost in all domains, since they always consider first who the addresser is. The setting influences people in choosing a language in trade domain, whereas topic influences people in choosing a language in education domain. Function of the communication also contributes to the language choice in neighborhood, friendship, and trade domain. From all factors, the addresser is found to be the most influential factor. The last, form the social dimension, it can be described that the social distance influences the language choice of the participants in neighborhood and trade domain.

Keywords: Language Choice, Social Factors, Social Dimensions, Speech Community

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