ABSTRACT

A very unusual phenomenon called schizophrenia has drawn people's attention, especially those who are related to the study of human mind, such as doctors and psychologists, for years. They wonder about factors that can change someone who previously has a normal life to be a schizophrenic.

One interesting fact about schizophrenia is that the people who suffer from this mental disorder, that are schizophrenics, seem to possess a rather different language of their own. This language shows handicapped yet creative aspects. It is characterised with the changes in grammar and syntax, such as string of words which is not syntactical or deletion of essential elements of words, clauses, or sentences (at least, according to the Western researches). These people also introduce the existence of neologism, glossolalia, and word salad. Despite the occurrence of language disturbances already mentioned above, the schizophrenics can still communicate with others.

In this study, the writer would like to describe the schizophrenics' pragmatics ability in communicating with others using this unique language. Four male schizophrenics are chosen to be the respondents of this study. The writer chose these people because they were active schizophrenics who spoke Indonesian, which is the object language of this study. The data, that are the utterances produced by the schizophrenics while they talk to other patients or the writer, are then analysed in terms of the theory given in the theoretical framework.

This thesis is ended with the conclusion that although the schizophrenics use a rather different language of their own, they can still communicate with others. They are successful in using all functions of speech acts, except the declaratives. Due to their psychological condition, these people, sometimes, violate the principle of representatives, which are used to describe states of affair, by uttering untrue utterances.

