

ABSTRACT

The Language of Anger (A Comparative Study on Language Used by Educated Men and Women in Surabaya in Expressing Their Anger), a partial fulfillment of the requirements for the sarjana degree of the English Department, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Airlangga University, Surabaya, May 26, 1999.

It is claimed that standard forms tend to be associated with female values and femininity. Some linguists have suggested that women tend to use more of the standard forms than the men because they are more status-conscious than men, society tends to expect better behaviour from women than from men, and people who are subordinate must be polite. Men, on the other hand prefer to use vernacular forms because they carry macho connotations of masculinity and toughness. Linguistic behaviour is heavily influenced by training and education. Women speak as they do and men speak as they do because they have from childhood been rewarded for doing so, overtly or subtly.

Concrete ways that women talk are frequently explained as a result of female 'personality' and socialization. This paper tries to examine the difference between men and women in choosing words and using swear words and questions (rhetorical and tag) when expressing their anger. The data are from tape recordings of twenty men and twenty women in total twenty five conversations in formal and casual conversational settings. Qualitative descriptive method is used to discuss and find out the problem appear in this study. The results of this study show that even though both men and women have equal level of education but still swearing is regarded as a territory of men while women's speech is devised to prevent the expression of strong statements. Meanwhile questions are typical of women speakers that reveal their societal subordinate position. The differences occur due to different treatments of society toward men and women through childhood socialization. Socially-structured power relations are reproduced and actively maintained in our everyday interactions. Men's and women's conversations reflect their superior and inferior social position.

TRANSCRIPTION CONVENTIONS

The Transcription conventions used for the conversational data are as follows.

1. A slash (/) indicates the end of a tone group or chunk of talk.
2. A question mark (?) indicates the end of a chunk of talk which I am analysing as a question.
3. A hyphen (–) indicates an incomplete word or utterance.
4. Pauses are indicated by a full stop (short pause – less than 0.5 second) or a dash (long pause).
5. An extended square bracket indicates the start of overlap between utterances, e.g.:

A: tapi bukan aku [sepenuhnya/
 B: [terus siapa?
6. Angled brackets (< >) give additional information.
7. Capital letters are used for words/ syllables uttered with emphasis.
8. An equals sign (=) at the end of one's speaker's utterance and at the start of the next utterance indicates the absence of a discernible gap.
9. A colon (:) after a vowel indicates vowel lengthening.
10. The symbol (→) indicates that the line to the right of the arrow is the one to pay attention to.

(Coates, 1996: xii – xiii)

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION