

ABSTRACT

Amelia, Jennie. *Analysis of the Functions of Speech Acts Used by Male and female Preachers (A Study of Sermons Delivered in Bethany Indonesia Church in Nginden, Surabaya).* A thesis submitted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for the sarjana degree of English Department, Faculty of Letters, Airlangga University.

Gender difference has been great issue in many subjects including language and religion. This study attempts to find differences or similarities in the speech acts used by male and female preachers. The speech acts uttered by the male and female preachers are classified according to Searle's categories of speech act. The speech acts are analyzed for their functions to see whether there are indirectness and overlapping functions or not. The use of speech acts by the male and female preachers are also related with their strategies in achieving effective sermons. Analysis of this study finds that there are indirectness and overlapping functions of speech acts produced by both preachers. However, based on the use of directive speech acts, the female preacher was apparently more direct than the male preacher. It draws to a conclusion that personal character, culture, and power-relation are determinant factors in the use of direct or indirect language style. However, indirectness does not decrease the power of the message conveyed in the sermons, but it is important to build interaction with the audiences to achieve effective sermons.

Keywords: speech acts, language and gender, indirectness, preacher, sermon