

**THE TENDENCY OF CHINESE-INDONESIAN
CHILDREN TO FOLLOW THEIR BILINGUAL PARENTS
IN MIXING THE TWO LANGUAGES**



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ABSTRACT

Nowadays, people usually do not only have a competence in one language. Someone who has an ability to use more than one language is called a bilingual. Bilinguals often engage in language mixing. One of the groups of people in Indonesia who mix their languages is Chinese-Indonesian, especially 'Totok' Chinese-Indonesian. Because speech is learned mainly by imitation, the 'totok' Chinese-Indonesian children, in this research are those whose ages are 7 to 15 years old, also have a tendency to mix the languages.

Here, the writer wants to know what the reasons are for 'Totok' Chinese-Indonesian children to follow their bilingual parents in mixing their languages and whether they like to mix the languages or not. The respondents are 80 'Totok' Chinese-Indonesian children who live in Surabaya and Malang. This study would give a contribution to psycholinguistic study.

Based on the results of the questionnaires, the 'Totok' Chinese-Indonesian children mix the languages at home, when they take a walk, go shopping, go picnic or attend public services, worship places or courses. When they are at their parents' shops, and at school. They mix the languages with their parents, brothers, sisters, relatives, Chinese-Indonesian friends, Sunday school teachers and friends, their course teachers and friends, and their school teachers.

From the presentation of the data, the most chosen answer by the respondents is imitating their parents. This has a correlation with McNeill's statement that children tend to imitate their parents' speech. The answers to the questionnaires show that most of the children like to mix the languages.