

AN ANALYSIS OF TABOO WORDS IN THE *HATE U GIVE* NOVEL

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Abstract

Through language, speakers can identify themselves as well as they view their language as a symbol of their identity. Language has flexible and dynamic characteristics which will create new possibilities in communication. This research aims to analyze the types of taboo words and the function of taboo words spoken by several characters in the novel "The Hate U Give". The types of taboo language according to Battistella (2005) will be used in the analysis, identifying, and classifying research. The research method used is a qualitative method and to analyze the function of taboo words researchers use Timothy Jay's theory. Researchers found 26 taboo utterances uttered by characters in "The Hate U Give" novel. The most dominant types of taboo words used is obscenity that appears 15 times and the least to occur is vulgarity and epithet that appears 1 time.

Keywords: *Taboo Words*

INTRODUCTION

The novel is a prose genre that expresses that most story elements complete, has extensive media, and presents broad societal problems (Rahayu, 2014). Novel in English means novel, from Italian means novella is a form of literary work fictional form. Even in its development, the meaning is the same as Indonesia, namely 'novelette'. A novel is defined as a work of prose fiction that is of sufficient length, but it is not too short. The first difference between novels and short stories can be seen in terms of formality form and length of the story. Agree with this statement that the novel is fictional stories that are only in the form of imagination. In daily life, people always use language to interact with other people. Language has an important function in the society, it is because language is a way to interact one with the other person, especially in communication. Through language, speakers can identify themselves as well as they view their

language as a symbol of their identify. Language has flexible and dynamic characteristic which will create new possibility in communication. So it is imposible that language can stop in one word and one meaning because language can change as fast the grown of human life itself. There are many kind of non-standard languages and cultural identities language is taboo words.

Taboo itself is essentially a “prohibition” or “prohibited thing” regarding certain aspects (Yayuk, 2019). An individual is prohibited from doing an actions or uttering certain words that are tabooed by society. This prohibition also certainly has its own consequences in the event of a violation, such as the existance of social sanctions from the community to the perpetratos of taboo violators

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research methodology is a data collection and analysis strategy to solve problems that occur in this research topic. This research topic. This research uses qualitative research. Research is defined as a process of collecting and analyzing data which is carried out systematically and logically to achieve certain goals. Collecting data in question is by using scientific methods, one of which is qualitative methods (Bachtiar, 2010). In this research, the writer took novel “ *The Hate U Give*” by Angie Thomas as the source of data. The writer used the sentences of the content of novel entitled “*The Hate U Give*” by Angie Thomas containing taboo words as the date. The first step to gathering data is reading a *The Hate U Give* novel. The second step is research to understand the content and story line of the novel. can translate some difficult words and sentences into the language of the researcher. The third step is to identify words and sentences in the novel, especially quotes that show words related to taboo in *The Hate U Give* novels. The four steps of writing a report into a thesis. The steps of the data analysis procedure are. The first step, Categorizing the data from this analysis, aims to make data review easier and faster. The second step is to classify the data from all instruments based on variable research. This groups all taboo sentences that exists in the novel. the third steps is to Analyzing the relevant words to answer the problem. Having found a taboo quote in *The Hate U Give* novel after

that underlines the sentence. The fourth or final step is interpreting the data, this aims to understand example of taboo words data in this study and is carried out by referring to taboo quotes in the *Hate U Give* novel.

RESEARCH FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this chapter, the research results are presented in detail about findings and discussion section. The results answer and research objectives namely identifying and describing the types and function taboo words in The Hate U Give novel . in this findings, the frequency of types and function taboo words are explained further analysis of each problem is presented in the discussion section.

Table 1. Types of Taboo words

No	Types of Taboo Words	Frequency	Percentage
1	Epithets	1	3,84%
2	Profanity	9	34,62%
3	Vulgarity	1	3,85%
4	Obscenity	15	57,69%
5	Total	26	100%

Epithets

Data 1

Chance: “Shiit **Bitch**, next time invite me. I’ll party them white kids”. (p. 12)

The words came from the mouth of Chance, because next time he wants to be invited and party with the white kids.

Profanity

Data 2

Chance: "Damn. For real?" (p.12)

Chance responded to Kenya's statement that white kids parties are pretty dope, by using the word "**Damn**" as a form of admiration for white kids parties.

Data 3

Starr: "I knew I'd be uncomfortable as hell but every time I told Kenya no she said I act like I'm too good for a Garden Party." (p.13)

There are taboo utterances uttered by Starr, that is "**Hell**" occurs because Starr felt uncomfortable at the Garden party.

Data 4

Hailey: "Oh my God. You're still upset about that?" (p.276)

In the conversation with Maya, Hailey uttered taboo utterance that is "**God**" belongs to the type of religious matter term and he uttered this words twice times in this conversation. The utterance "**God**" means the being or spirit that is believed to have created the universe.

Vulgarity

Data 5

DeVante: "Bastards. I climb out that pool so fast". (p.285)

DeVante said the word "**Bastard**" as he climbed quickly into the pool to describe his happiness.

Obscenity

Data 6

Starr: " Fuck I wish he wan't that kinda busy though. I don't know

if I wanna tear up or smack him". (p.14)

The "**Fuck**" sentence that is included in the obscene sentences, the utterance "**Fuck**" that was uttered by starr occurs as the expression annoyance.

Data 7

Daddy: "Oh. Shit". (p.161)

Daddy's taboo utterance "**Shit**" means feces. As we know that feces is something dirty, and it is usually uttered to discredit. Daddy discredit the slave masters from hurting their families.

Anger-Frustration

Data 8

Daddy: "Really?" Damn, he's messed with my head enough". (p.141)

The taboo word **Damn** is classified as anger and/or frustration. Daddy used **Damn** in this context to express anger over the chaos that was happening at that time

Descriptive-Evaluative**Data 9**

Khalil : "Khalil sips his drink like I didn't say anything, mutters,

"Damn, this shit strong," and sets the cup on the coffe table". (p. 16)

The taboo word **Damn** is classified as Descriptive Evaluative. At that time Khalil was sipping his drink. Here Khalil used **Damn** describe the strong taste of his drink.

Joking**Data 10**

DeVante: "Damn, it's like that?". (p. 122)

The taboo word **Damn** classified as joking. At that time Starr and Seven made a joke to DeVante.

Surprise**Data 11**

Hailey: "Oh my God, you're still upset about that?"

The taboo word **God** is classified as surprise. The taboo word **God** is a religious term that is often used by an individual to indicate that something is surprising, it is also followed by a word to support the function. At that time Hailey was shocked by Maya's uttered, who was still annoyed with her over the joke that Hailey had said.

Sarcastic Irony or Insults

Data 12

DeVante: “ **Bastards**, I climb out that pool so fast”. (p. 285)

The taboo word **Bastards** is classified as Sarcastic Irony or Insults. Here DeVante used **Bastards** to insults Sekani and Daniel.

After analyzing the types of taboo words in the novel, the researcher categorized and analysed the collected data into five taboo words fuctions in accordance with Timothy Jay’s theory, they are anger-frustation with 12 data (46,16%), Descriptive-evaluative with 4 data (15,39%), joking with 1 data (3,84%), surprise with 5 data (19,23%), and sarcastic irony or insults with 4 data (15,38%)

Table 2. Function of Taboo Words

No	Function of taboo words	Frequency	Percentage
1	Anger-Frustation	12	46,16%
2	Descriptive-Evaluative	4	15,39%
3	Joking	1	3,84%
4	Surprise	5	19,23%
5	Sarcastic irony or insults	4	15,38%
	Total	26 data	100%

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

This research about taboo words uttered in The Hate U Give novel. In order to answer the kinds of taboo words, the researcher categorized taboo words by using Battistella’s taboo words categories. Based on the analysis, the authors found four categories of taboo words, here are epithets, profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity in several main characters that is Chance, Hailey, Starr, Daddy, and DeVante. The most dominant types taboo words use is obscenity that appears 15 times and the least to occur is vulgarity and epithet that appears 1 time. This

researcher focuses on the use of taboo words that are uttered in *The Hate U Give* novel. this research is expected to give contribution toward developing knowledge in sociolinguistics. This researcher is expected to be useful for the students, especially in English language and literature department, because it provides empirical data to increase the students knowledge in taboo words.

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