

TABOO WORDS AND MORAL VALUE ANALYSIS IN “BAD TEACHER” MOVIE BY JAKE KASDAN

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Abstract: The purpose of this research is to analyze taboo words and moral value analysis in the “Bad Teacher” movie by Jake Kasdan. The method she used in this research is descriptive qualitative research that aims to describe taboo words and moral value contained in the movie “Bad Teacher”. The duration of the movie “Bad Teacher” is 92 minutes. The data obtained are to be analyzed and classified based on taboo words from the dialogue and the moral value, which consists of five elements, there are kind and friendly, bravery, honesty, hard work, and patriotism. 1) After analyzing the pragmatics and moral value from the movie “Bad Teacher” by Jake Kasdan which consist of 52 dialogues, the writer found out that there are 32 dialogues used taboo words and 2) 13 conversations contains moral value: 5 conversations or 38,48% moral value of kind and friendly, four conversations or 30,76% of hard work, two conversations or 15,38% of patriotism, one conversation or 7,69 of honesty, one conversation or 7,69% of bravery. Kind and friendly reached the most percentage because the consisting of life in the school from many kinds of characters, and it makes the story more exciting and touching.

Keywords: sociolinguistics; moral value; taboo; movie analysis

Introduction

Taboo words are always linked to inappropriate language and cannot be used in everyday conversations. Thus, in most languages, like English, taboo words still manage as offensive and savage words. Long-time ago in America, there were strict rules to avoid the use of taboo words in public, such as printed media. Using taboo words like “fuck” and “pussy” would lead to arrest and incarceration, so they would not be used in printed media like newspapers. Nevertheless, nowadays, it seems, the attitude towards the function of taboo words has already changed. The changes occurred because the legal sanctions were disappearing, and there was a tendency that people now become more relaxed in accepting taboo words. As a consequence, the taboo terms are commonly found when someone demonstrates a sense of motivation.

These taboo words can be seen from various sources such as movies, song lyrics, and television shows (Pinker, 2008). The presence of tabulated words in those sources is caused by the fact that some people believe that using tabulated words is an acceptable way to express a strong feeling and emotion, particularly in swearing. Taboo words in the form of swearing not only convey rage and emotional distress, but also express friendliness, familiarity, or group identification (Jay, 2003; Wajnryb, 2005). The sentence “Hey, b*st*ard!!”; the word “b*st*ard” means “mate.” American Negroes usually call their close friend or family. Hence, people can now embrace using taboo terms because it is considered the best way to convey their most positive feeling.

It is assumed that taboo words are mostly spoken by lower class with a lower educational background as it is believed that educational background affects the way people speak. People speak an indication of their social background. On the other hand, the conclusion is somehow not right because people with a good educational background still use obscene and offensive language in their conversation. If people utter taboo words, whether educated or uneducated, there must be some explanations behind them. Some people are not merely uttered taboo words because they want to do so. Often they use taboo words for specific purposes, including attracting attention from others to demonstrate their disdain. The researcher uses a movie as the source of her research because this movie contains a lesson in life, especially as a

teacher. It also shows us some bad and good qualities of human life. So, as the reader or viewer, we can select the moral values of the film carefully. Knows the positive and negatives moral values, and then use the positive moral values in real life. The audience may get the various moral value which consists of good and bad values. The ethical values include honesty, bravery, and willingness, while the wrong values include carelessness, cowardness, and despair. The moral is teaching or exhibiting goodness or correctness of character and behavior. In movies, taboo words or profanity language are worth to analyze from the view point of the characters' mood and situation in which they use these languages, for example there are seven forms of taboo words occurred in the movie "Crank 2": profanity, obscenity, vulgarity, slang, epithets, insults and provocation, and scatology (Bayu Miarta et al., 2019).

Batistella (2005) already proposed taboo word types. There are four forms of taboo words, according to Batistella: epithets, profanity, vulgarity, and obscenity. Jay (1992, pp. 2–9, 2000) proposes nine types, namely obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, epithets, blasphemy, cursing, slang, insult and slur, and scatology. Epithets are a brief but powerful burst of emotional language. They are more powerful in presentation (loudness or duration) and in offensiveness than other types of cursing, for example, jokes. Example: "*Shit*, man!". Profanity is founded on a religious distinction. To be profane means to be secular or to act, and to be ignorant of words in a religious belief that does not seek to denigrate God, religion or holy things, but is based more on ignorance or indifference to these matters. Examples are "*Jesus Christ*, I'm tired of this!". The next type is that of vulgarity. Vulgarity is the language of the common person, 'the person on the street,' or the unsophisticated, unsocialized, under-educated. Example: "Kiss my *ass*!"

Obscenity is another form of taboo term. This form is known to be the one most offensive and seldom, if ever, used in public places. Obscenities are of a sexual nature; this kind of expression is indecent. But obscenity is legal, for example: "*fuck*" or "*mother fucker*." While, blasphemy is an assault on the practice of faith. Although profanity is linked to secular or indifferent (religion), blasphemy is aimed specifically at the church. Blasphemy obtains condemnation through the power of the church, so that the greater the power of the body of faith, the more one can be prosecuted for the use of blasphemous words.

Cursing is the word "invoking harm to another person through the use of certain words or phrases" (Jay, 1992, p. 2). When cursing is used, the user is probably aiming to make it happen in the future. The definition of this cursing term is like "I hope you *broke your leg*" or "eat *shit* and *die*!". The other kind of tabuistic term is slang. Slang refers to a language formed in certain subgroups (teenagers, singers, soldiers, drug users or athletes) where contact is known as slang. This slang code is used to distinguish group members, which may be particularly important or illegal translations. Types of slang terms are: "pimp," "dweeb," "cupcakes."

Insult and slur also include in the forms of taboo words. Insult and slur are verbal attacks on other people. These words are spoken to harm another person by the word alone. Slurs may be of a facial, racial or social type and may suggest or stereotyping or bias to the speaker. Insult may denote the physical, emotional, or psychological quality of the goal and is commonly heard on the school playground. Many slurs and slur use animal imagery, for example: *pig*, *dog*, *jackass*. Some are based on social anomalies, such as "*whore*, *slut*, *man*, *homo*, *fag*." Scatology is the last form of tabuistic term. Scatological terms refer to human waste materials and systems. Those phrases are among the early words that children hear and use when they are educated in the bathroom. Scatological insults are popular among children, for example: *poo-poo*, *poop*, *turd*, *crap*, *shit ass*, *brain shit*, *piss*, *piss off*, *fart*.

In the movie "Bad Teacher" (Kasdan, 2011), the characters frequently use taboo words in their conversations so that the utterances can be analyzed easily. The characters in the film "Bad Teacher" have come mostly from people with a higher educational background. Consideration of the use of tabulated words by characters with a good educational sense is therefore essential. Consequently, it can be a good example of the prevalence of the tabulated terms in a well-educated society.

Method

Proper research will result in an ethical, accountable, and credible study. Therefore, proper research needs a good, appropriate, and accountable method for every researcher wants that any research he or she has done will result in a credible and accountable result. The researcher will use a qualitative research methodology as a method for analysis.



Before doing research, a researcher must first determine what method corresponds to the subject he will examine. Errors in determining the method she will use will cause the results of her research to be invalid and not be fought for. The method used by the researcher in order to write this thesis is descriptive. A descriptive method is a research that describes or describes something. Suharsimi (2013, p. 3) stated that descriptive research is a study intended to investigate circumstances, conditions, or other matters already mentioned, whose results are reported in the form of a research report. It brings the meaning that a descriptive research is a study that aims to examine a condition or conditions, as well as events that exist or are present in our environment, while the approach used in this writing is qualitative. A qualitative approach is an approach to an understanding of researchers and subjects.

Creswell (2012) stated that qualitative research is a complex picture that examines the words, detailed reports from the views of respondents, and conducts studies on natural situations. It means that qualitative research is an elaborate description of everything, examining everything in detail and from the respondent. While the technique used in this research is data analysis techniques. Data analysis techniques following the name associated with the contents of communication, both verbally, in the form of language, and non-verbal, such as architecture, clothing, household appliances, and electronic media. The contents in the method of data analysis consist of two kinds, namely latent content and communication content. The latent content is the content contained in the document and the text, while the content of the communication is the message contained as a result of the communication that occurred.

Result and Discussions

A. Results

There are four types of taboo words, i.e., obscenity, profanity, vulgarity, and epithet. All of them appear in the conversations spoken by the characters in the movie. From the table above, it can be noticed that the most dominant type used by the characters is obscenity, which appears 19 times. Then, the second-highest frequency, which has the same percentage, is profanity and vulgarity, which appear five times. Finally, the least to occur is an epithet that appears three times.

As for the function of taboo words, to show contempt becomes the most dominant function found in *Bad Teacher* movie because taboo words can be the best expression to show disrespect toward other people since they are directed and aimed to hurt someone's pride. In *Bad Teacher* movie, the characters utter taboo words when they want to show their dislike toward someone. Then, to emphasize their disrespect, the taboo word is chosen as the best way to express their feeling. Meanwhile, to mock authority function becomes the least to occur in *Bad Teacher* movie. This function only appears once in the movie because the theme of the movie is a romantic comedy that is not concerned with criticizing governmental issues. This function only appears one when Elizabeth sees one of her students wearing formal attire, which makes her look like a Congresswoman.

Furthermore, for moral value from the movie, the writer finds out that there is 13 conversation which consists of moral value. Five dialogues describe kind and friendly, four dialogues described hard work, two dialogues consist of about patriotism, one dialogue describes honesty, and one dialogue consists of bravery.

B. Discussion

1) Taboo Words

In the movie entitled "*Bad Teacher*" from the description of the analysis, it can be concluded that the writer found taboo words from the movie "*Bad Teacher*". Taboo is connected with something that is avoided and forbidden to talk about. Taboo originates from the social restriction on one's behavior, which can bring out about uneasiness, harm, and injury. Since it is resulting in uneasiness, harm, and injury, people in society are supposed to avoid taboo, which has a vulgar sense.

From 50 dialogues, 32 conversations used taboo words and related to the context situation. From this information, the writer becomes more understand of the background of the movie. Taboo words in the movie are to add information or knowledge and make the film more interesting. From the movie, the writer finds out that there are four types of taboo words, which consist of obscenity 19 times, profanity five times, vulgarity five times, and epithet three times. Based on the result, the percentage about obscenity 59,38%, 15,63% of profanity, 15,63% of vulgarity, and 9,36 % of epithet.

2) Moral Values

The moral value may be regarded as a subclass of the class of non-material values". This definition brings the meaning that moral value is an abstract value or immaterial value that is physically invisible. It is because the object that has a moral value, such as moral action, a moral principle, and a feeling of moral satisfaction, is an object which can be neither physically touched nor seen.

Moreover, from the movie, the writer finds out that there is 13 conversation which consists of moral value. Five dialogues describe kind and friendly, four dialogues described hard work, two dialogues consist of about patriotism, one dialogue describes honesty, and one dialogue consists of bravery. Based on the result of the percentage element of the moral value obtained 38,48% moral value of kind and friendly, 30,76% of hard work, 15,38% of patriotism, 7,69 of honesty, and 7,69% of bravery. Instead made the film/movie more interesting, the moral value gave education, especially about five elements above. Kind and friendly reached the most percentage because the consisting of life in the school from many kinds of characters and it makes the story more exciting and touching.

Conclusions

After an analysis has been done, the writer concluded that the movie "Bad Teacher" the writer concluded that the movie consists of 51 dialogue with the duration of the movie 92 minutes. The analysis itself has two objects, the first explained about taboo words which explained the details like types and the functions of it. The second about moral value analysis, which consists of 5 elements that occur in the movie. Moral value has a function to education, such as to teach good behavior to us, for example, respectful, bravely, kindly and friendly, honesty, hard work, patriotism, and responsibility. The moral value that implicitly delivered in the story is revealed after the analysis of the part of a novel or film/movie.

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