

The Effect of Using Slang among Students towards the Indonesian Language

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ABSTRACT

Language has evolved along with the times. One of the variations that arise as a result of language development is slang. Slang in Indonesia is widely used by teenagers. The slang also continues to develop over time. The use of slang keeps growing and impacts the original grammatical of the Indonesian language itself. Based on this problem, the researcher attempted to examine the impact of the use of slang among adolescents. The research was conducted using a qualitative descriptive method. The sample was selected using a purposive sampling technique. The data collection technique was done by semi-structured interviews using a voice recorder and small notes. After the data was obtained, the analysis was carried out using a phenomenological approach. The results of data analysis found that the use of slang causes teenagers to be unfamiliar and unable to use Indonesian properly. This makes it difficult to communicate using Indonesian, especially in an educational environment for high school students. In addition, this also disrupts the learning process at school. Based on these results, it can be concluded that the impact of using slang can damage the structure and shift the role of the original Indonesian language.

Keywords: Slang, Indonesian grammatical, phenomenological approach



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1. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia has several islands or regions and various kinds of languages which are considered regional languages. This regional language is used in informal situations, in the sense when interacting with fellow people of the same region. Meanwhile, in formal programs, Indonesian is used as the language of the speakers as officially agreed and declared the national language on the Youth Pledge. Regional languages are languages which distinguishes each region in Indonesia.

Language is a symbol of the characteristics of a country or region because it is an important element in communication or the main communication tool. Everyone needs language in interacting and socializing with other people in society. Languages are very diverse in this world. Every country has its own language that is different from each other and distinguishes one country from another, or one region from another. Indonesia uses Indonesian as the general language or the main language of the country, in contrast to the United States which uses English as the state language. Language can also be a national feature.

Over time, the use of Indonesian in everyday life began to change and was replaced by the use of young people in a language known as slang. Teenagers think that if they do not understand slang, it means they are not trendy. Slang becomes increasingly common among teenagers, and many educated people may use this slang in both formal and informal times, both in spoken and written form. In this research, the author attempted to explore the impact of using slang among students on the use of Indonesian.

LITERATURE REVIEW

A. Language

1. Definition of Language

The Great Dictionary of the Indonesian Language defines language as an arbitrary key system used by community members to work together, interact, and identify with each other. Sound is produced by human speech which is different from sound produced by other musical instruments. The speech comes

out of the air that comes out of the lungs, vibrates the vocal cords of the oesophagus, and is spoken through the mouth.

Abidin, et al (2010:1) according to Keraf in Smarapradhipa (2005:1), provide two meanings of language. The first definition states language is a means of communication between members of the community in the form of sound symbols produced by human speech organs. Second, language is a communication system that uses arbitrary vocal symbols (speech sounds). From some of the definitions above, it can be concluded that language is the sound produced by human speech tools that are used to communicate or interact between members of the community.

2. Language Function

The function of language according to Abidin, et al (2010:3) is mainly as a medium of communication, but apart from being a medium of communication, language also has other functions, such as:

- The expressive function of language can be used to express ideas, thoughts, and experiences. For instance, in poetry. The author experiences his ideas, thoughts, and experiences in a language written per verse called poetry. The aesthetic function of language is a beautiful medium to convey a message. This aesthetic function is usually manifested in the form of literary works.
- Informative function means that language can be used to inform something to others. Functional tools means that language can be used as a tool to achieve certain goals.

3. Standard Language

The standard language is a standard language based on the study of various sciences including linguistics, according to applicable linguistic rules, and according to the times, in other words, standard language is the standard linguistics used. The types of standard language that are commonly used:

- Formal communication (Written), for example, official correspondence, official announcements, laws and others.
- Technical Discourse, for example, official reports, scientific essays, textbooks and others.
- Public speaking, for example, lectures, speeches and others.
- Conversations with respected people and so on (Formal), for example, teachers
- During a meeting at a certain institution, state talks.

4. Slang

In the beginning, slang is known as Prokem. The term began in the late 1980s. Its meaning was originally related to the thug. At that time it was known as the language of stray children because it was previously only used as a secret language by thugs and street children, and has gradually turned into slang.

B. Communication

In the womb, babies establish communication with their mothers and vice versa. Communication between baby and mother is verbal, for instance, the baby moves in the womb, but verbally, the mother may say the word "my dear child". Communication is very important for the happiness of our lives. There are several roles that communication activities contribute in order to create human happiness.

- Communication helps the intellectual and social development of society. As people grow up, the social environment becomes wider. At the same time, human intellectual and social development progressed. The improvement of these two aspects is largely determined by the quality of human communication with the environment in which they are located. According to Wilbur Scharmm (1971), these social relationships are desirable because people feel that being a member of society increases their self-esteem and security. This need is met by establishing harmonious communication with the social groups to which the people belong. Relationships run directly (interpersonal).

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- Communication allows people to discover their identity because people get individual feedback from other people. Reacting, observing, saying, being aware, or being thoughtful about various things conveyed by other people exist in human communication.
 - In order to understand the reality around people and to test the correctness of their impressions and understanding of the world around us, people compare them with other people's impressions and understandings of the same reality.
 - Human mental health is also very dependent on the quality of communication and relationships with other people, especially those who are important in human life.

C. Conformity

Compliance means immersing oneself in the environment to gain recognition. Compatibility is very important in the social development of adolescents because it increases the child's self-esteem. The larger the number of group members, the better the fit. Recent research has shown that larger groups tend to add up to 8 or more members, which tends to increase compliance. Therefore, the larger the group of students who use slang, the more likely they are to engage in behaviour that is not intended by other students.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was conducted to show how properly and correctly the phenomena related to the use of Indonesian among students were. In this study, the researcher adopted a qualitative research method, which is a natural research design in the sense that the researcher investigates phenomena rather than manipulating the research environment. Instead, it is a study of a phenomenon.

The reason for using qualitative research methods is that a complex phenomenon can be accommodated by using an open method and the use of theory only serves to develop the sensitivity of the researcher to guide the course of research and reveal the problems studied (Mirra N. Milla, 2010). The data that appears in this qualitative research was in the form of words (information) that the respondent conveyed to the researcher and was received to obtain appropriate results.

To obtain a representative sample that truly describes the actual state of the population, the sample is taken using the technique of purposive sampling.

Purposive Sampling is a sampling that aims to take a subject based on a specific purpose (Arikunto, 2006). This study aims to determine the suitability of the use of slang among students. The sample of this study was 10 students who used slang and were not proficient in speaking of Indonesian.

The data collection technique of this research was a semi-structured interview. The technique of recording semi-structured interviews was using a cellphone voice recorder and non-structured interviews using small notes. The description of the case that the researcher adopted according to the etic case which is a theoretical review and empirical finding whose problem is based on the findings of the theory or previous research (Milla, 2011). The researcher was looking for the origin of the literature on language and its misuse in today's people. As a result, there were cases that have attracted the attention of the researcher regarding the use of proper and valid Indonesian language and its development in the present. Then the researcher determined the respondent and established communication and approached them until the respondent was willing to be a subject in this study. The researcher conducted in-depth semi-structured interviews 2 times.

The data analysis was used to investigate subjective experiences and clarify situations experienced in everyday life. From the interview questions, each respondent's responses were analyzed and identified according to the aims and objectives of the survey using a phenomenological approach.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

A. Linearity Test

In this modern era, the use of proper and correct Indonesian is far from the grammatical rules and as a result, slang is better known than the official and standard language. Most Indonesian people, especially indigenous people in certain areas, do not use it well. The history of the Indonesian language

is neglected in school education, and people, especially teenagers, cannot understand all the languages they struggled with in the past.

The habit of using slang makes everyone unusual and even unfamiliar with the proper language when it comes to communication. Peer factors and electronic media greatly affect the development of the existing language. Moreover, the factor of conformity between individuals and a group is also affected as well. In order to be able to survive in a dynamic environment, one inevitably follows the flow of development.

Research respondents realized that the use of "slang" language is a wrong habit and must be changed. However, this behaviour provides a sensation of extraordinary pleasure because the variety of words and sentences used are very interesting. Along with the development of technology today, communicating using slang is not only spoken verbally but also nonverbal messages through electronic media.

The impact is the difficulty of communicating and interacting with speakers in Indonesian, especially in the educational environment for high school students. The fear of changing languages during discussions because of the lack of Indonesian vocabulary is caused by the habit of not using Indonesian properly. It interferes with the relationship between teachers and students.

The existence of the Indonesian language in this modern era and the development of the Indonesian language are decreasing. There are various foreign language inputs that cannot be rejected and several foreign languages are included in the Indonesian vocabulary. However, on the other hand, the diversity of borrowed languages is also a problem of language originality which is increasingly concerning, and the use of grammar both spoken and written is increasingly less thoughtful. Obviously, TV media, newspapers, radio, the Internet and imported brands are one of the main factors that undermine our language. This phenomenon is proven in the way young people today use language.

In other words, the existence of Indonesian is increasingly being displaced by the emergence of other languages such as slang. In this era of globalization, the use of slang is increasing, new slang is emerging, and the presence of Indonesian is decreasing. This slang makes it difficult for teenagers to learn standard Indonesian. Even if you are a native, you may not recognize that it is not the correct and proper language. Not infrequently slang is used for formal events that are not in context. Media influences the development of slang, especially on social networking sites by influencers. Teenagers' writings on social networking sites using slang can be seen and imitated by other teenagers. However, it cannot be denied that the adoption of slang that is widespread among children and adolescents is part of environmental compliance. Compliance means immersing oneself in the environment to gain recognition. In the social development of adolescents, adaptation is necessary because it can increase children's self-esteem. So what we need to teach young people who really need to develop society is the issue of placement in terms of when and for whom the language can be used.

4. CONCLUSION

Based on the results and discussion, it can be concluded that the existence of slang is certainly very damaging to the existence of the Indonesian language. However, on the other hand, especially for children, adolescents and students, psychological development requires social awareness, one of which follows the trend of slang itself and cannot be prevented. Therefore, re-increasing the presence of Indonesian alone cannot prevent, but minimize, the development of slang. Of the 10 survey participants, they found that slang can be used comfortably among them. This is considered to be a characteristic that distinguishes it from other groups among students.

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