A STUDY OF SWEAR WORDS USED BY CHARACTERS IN THE MOVIE FAST AND FURIOUS 6

JOURNAL ARTICLE
Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For the Degree of SarjanaSastra (S.S.)
in English Language

by:
Ulia Ahda Amalia

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT, FACULTY OF HUMANITIES
DIAN NUSWANTORO UNIVERSITY
SEMARANG
2014
PAGE OF APPROVAL

Title of Thesis : A Study of Swear Words used by Characters in the Movie Fast And Furious 6
Student Name : Ulla Ahda Amalia
Student ID Number : C11.2010.01136

This journal articles has been approved by the Adviser, English Study Program, Faculty of Humanities, Dian Nuswantoro University on September 23th, 2014.

Adviser

Nina Setyaningsih, S.S., M.Hum
A STUDY OF SWEAR WORDS USED BY CHARACTERS IN THE MOVIE FAST AND FURIOUS 6

Ulia Ahda Amalia and Nina Setyaningsih
English Department, Dian Nuswantoro University

ABSTRACT

The research is entitled A Study of Swear Words Used By Characters in the Movie Fast And Furious 6. It aims at finding types of swear words and to finding the reasons for using swear words in Fast and Furious 6 movie. The data were taken from http://www.springfieldspringfield.co.uk as the main source. This study is qualitative which describes the unreal situation briefly in order to support the data. In conducting this research, the researcher downloaded the script of Fast and Furious 6 movie, matched the transcript with the movie, and identified the data in every utterance. Then, the researcher classified the data into five categories based on the types of swear words by Pinker, and four reasons for using swear words by Andersson and Trudgill. The results of the study shows there are 57 swear words. They are classified into 21 religion swear words; It is mostly dominant because this is American movie, and majority of American use religion swear word to show the close relation between friends. There are 19 body effluvia swear words, 17 sexuality swear words; it is the last dominant because the theme in this movie is action, so they did not focus in intimate term. Moreover, the reasons for using swear words, are divided into 25 as expletive; it becomes mostly used because the situation in this movie is tight, so they express more emotional reaction. Moreover, swear words have 14 abusive purposes, 12 auxiliary and 6 humorous; it becomes the last dominant because the genre of this movie is action. It makes the characters focus in their mission, so they should be serious in communication.

Key words: Fast and Furious 6, Linguistics, Sociolinguistics, Swear words

INTRODUCTION

Speaking is a way to express of someone’s feeling or as a tool to communicate and interact with each other. In expressing it, people have many ways for example by swearing. People always associate swearing with using nasty words, which are not allowed to be used in conversation or talk. In simple words, swear words are contradictory for people in communication. Swearing makes many people upset, annoyed, insulted, mad or even angry. It is really a verbal harassment if other people hear it. Swearing has always been regarded as undereducated, obscene, rude and impolite in society. However, many people use swear words in their daily life. Generally speaking, swearing is more tolerated in informal and private or in-group settings relative to more formal and public settings. The formality of the situation in swearing can occur by matters.
People know what swear words are, but they keep using it in communication. Swear words and how to use them in communication are never studied in the school, university, or classroom instruction. It means how people know and use the swear words are greatly influenced by their surrounding environments. When people are in emotional condition, they can not control their words, as a result they use swear words which may offend other people. However in some case, people also use swear or curse words to show their intimacy or a strong bound relationship with their friends.

There are swear words that are found in this movie, because the movie is categorized in action movie. In action movies swear words are commonly used to communicate with each other. It is similar with real life people, in a group or a gang, they usually use swear words for several reasons.

In this research, the researcher is interested in analyzing Fast and Furious 6 because this box office action movie has a lot of swear words that are used by the characters. Both the protagonist and the antagonist characters use swear words. The movie can be an example of swear words which are commonly used in the society. Therefore, the researcher conducted a research entitled “A Study of Swear Words Used by Characters in the movie Fast and Furious 6.”

METHOD

Research Design
This research used a descriptive qualitative method since the data are not in the form of number or chart but in the form of description of the type of swear words and the reasons for using swear words used by the characters in the movie Fast and Furious 6.

Data
The data source of this study was the transcript of Fast and Furious 6 movie downloaded from the internet at http://www.springfieldspringfield.co.uk. It is directed by Justin Lin. In this movie, the researcher focuses in all characters.

Unit of Analysis
The unit of analysis of this study was every utterance produced by the characters. By analyzing the characters utterances in the movie entitled Fast and Furious 6, the use of swear words could be explored.

Data Collection
The data were selected from website, and taken from the movie Fast and Furious 6. The researcher used the method of library research to get more information about her research especially in sociolinguistic of swear words. Next, she watched the movie, downloaded the movie transcript, and matched the transcript with the movie to collect the data.

Data Analysis
To analyze the data, the researcher identified swear word in every utterances. Then she coded the data, classified the data into the types of swear words based on Pinker (2008: 342-349) and the reasons for using swear words based on Andersson and Trudgill (1990: 53). She draw the conclusion of the analysis.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table 1.1. Total Types of Swear Words Used by the Characters in the movie Fast and Furious 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>TYPES OF SWEAR WORDS</th>
<th>Σf</th>
<th>Σ%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Religion</td>
<td>Body effluvia</td>
<td>Sexuality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rom</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hobb</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tej</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bri</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dom</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Let</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oak</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Gis</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Stas</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Han</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Bra</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Ril</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Shaw</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Jah</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Kla</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

From the table above, it can be seen that there are three types of swear words, the first type is religion, body effluvia, sexuality. Here, religion is the most dominant with 21 words, body effluvia 19 words, and sexuality 17 words. All expressions are uttered by the characters. They use swear words to emphasize the power or relation between them.

Table 1.2. Reasons for using swear words used by the characters in the movie Fast and Furious 6.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>NO.</th>
<th>SPEAKER</th>
<th>Reasons for using swear words</th>
<th>Σf</th>
<th>Σ%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Expletive</td>
<td>Abusive</td>
<td>Auxiliary</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Rom</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hobb</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Tej</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Bri</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Dom</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Let</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Oak</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The table shows that the characters use swear words based on 4 purposes. Here, the most dominant reasons for using swear word is to show a emphasize emotion that they really feel with 25 utterances because the characters are a group of friends, that’s why they use swear words to mark that they have a close relation and also to create intimate.

**TYPES OF SWEAR WORDS**

In this research there are found three types of swear words. It can be seen as follows:

1. **Religion**

   There are 21 words categorized as religion in the data. It became the first domination in the data. The characters in this movie used religion swear to excite their emotion. They are used in respectful context and when they are shocked and upset by their careless. The researchers found the word *holy, hell, damn, goddamn*, as the religion swear. Based on the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

   **Excerpt 1:**
   [Afternoon, warehouse]
   247. Ril : All right, this is number five on our list.
   248. Ril : **Holy** shit. What the dude plan on hunting? Moby Dick?
   249. Han : That’s must be our guy. So, how do you all want to play this?
   250. Ril : Han and I got this. We go in tight, you let me do all the talking, and you all have my back on it.

   The conversation takes place in front of the warehouse where the manufacture of Shaw’s car. Riley, Gisele, Roman and Han tasks to search some information’s about the place manufacture of Shaw’s car. They searching for some places, but this place are number five on their list. Roman bored because there are not any clues in their location; he argues that it is wasting time. He says the word *‘holy’* in a high intonation; the word *‘holy’* belongs to Christ’s word term. According to www.thefreedictionary.com, the word *‘holy’* means associated with God or a deity; sacred. It is also related in religion term. In this case, the word *‘holy’* as followed by *‘shit’* will have negative meaning and also used in emotional reaction. It is used to express his annoyance in the very unpleasant situation.
2. Body effluvia

There are 19 words categorized as body effluvia. The characters in this movie used body effluvia swear to express their feelings of anger, upset and disappointed. The researchers found the word shit and bloody as the body effluvia swear. According based on the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

Excerpt 6:
[Night, on the road]
159. Rom : What is that, a hockey puck?
160. Den : I got them.
161. Kla : Chip one is ready.
(TIRES SCREECHING)
162. Rom : Oh, shit!

The conversation takes place in the road when Hobb and teams are trying to chase Shaw. In this time, Den shot a chip to Roman’s car. A few minutes later his car loss of balance. As the result, his car goes out of the street line and crashes a building. Roman expresses his anger as the reaction of the accident. He utters the word ‘Oh shit!’ with a high intonation, while the chip is working. According to www.thefreedictionary.com ‘shit’ means excrement; to defecate; the act or instance of defecating. In swearing ‘shit’ used to express disgust or disappointment. It relates with sexuality term, In contrast, in this movie, it is used for different context. It is used to express his disappointed. However, it is still included as body effluvia term even though it has different meaning.

3. Sexuality

There are 17 words categorized as sexuality in the data. The characters in this movie used sexuality swear words to associated parts of the body. The researchers found the word pussy, bitch, fuck, bastard as the sexuality swear. According to the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

Excerpt 11:
[Night, on the plane]
618. Hob : Hey,
619. Let : Wrong team, bitch.

The conversation takes place on the plane. It happens because Letty and Riley are fighting on the plane. Riley chokes Letty until she overwhelmed, then she tries to open the door and push Riley. Her successes to lose Riley’s hand and push Riley glace-off to the front of the door. Suddenly Hobb is coming, and give a gun to Letty. She excites because her get help from Hobb. She says the word ‘bitch’ in a low intonation, while shots Riley. The word ‘bitch’ is considered sexuality term. According to www.thefreedictionary.com the word ‘bitch’ means a bad tempered or unpleasant woman. It relates with sexuality term, in this movie it is used for different context. It used Letty to express her hate to Riley. However, it is still included as sexuality term even though it has different meaning.

REASONS FOR USING SWEAR WORDS
1. **Expletive**

There are 25 words as expletive in the data. The characters in this movie used expletive to express their emotional reaction, but it was not particular meaning. It was only an exclamatory oath. In this data, the researcher found the word *shit, hell, goddamn* as the expletive function. According to the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

**Excerpt 16:**

[Afternoon, Brian’s home in Spain]

75. Dom: Yeah. Everything’s changed.

76. Bri: So what’s up with you? What’s going on?

77. Dom: Taken a week ago.


You know, I used to do this *shit* all the time as a cop.

This is exactly what cops do. He’s messing with your head.

Letty’s dead, Dom.

79. Dom: I need to know for sure.

The conversation takes place at the Brian’s home. Dom and Brian are talking about their past. They remember times of their freedom, where they became a wild racer. But now everything has been changed, Brian missed his racer soul. Dom makes sure that everything has been changed. It makes Brian’s curious in Dom statement. Then, Dom gives a map to Brian. He reads the map was from Hobbs. He feels annoy when he knows about the map is from a cop. It happens because he has experiences as a cop and he think it is wasting time. He makes sure to Dom that Letty die, but Dom wants to know for sure. Brian expresses his annoyed emotion by saying the word *‘shit’* in high intonation. In this context, the word *‘shit’* is considered exclamatory oath. So the function of the swear word is expletive.

2. **Abusive**

There are 14 words as abusive in the data. The characters in this movie used abusive to expresses their emotional reaction with insult in others. In this data, the researcher found the word *asshole, pussy, bloody, bitch, asshole* as the abusive function. According to the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

**Excerpt 21:**

[Morning, Interpol headquarters]

19. Oak: I’ve got rights, you *asshole*!


21. Oak: No, no!

The conversation takes place at the Interpol headquarters. Hobb and Riley come to meet one of Shaw’s team, after Riley gets a call from the internal headquarters. They give information that they catch one of Shaw’s team. He names Oakes. Hobb come to the room to meet Oakes. He asks the existence of Shaw, but Oakes does not want to tell anything about Shaw. It happens because Oakes wants to protect Shaw. Oakes is very angry with Hoob, he expresses his anger by saying
‘asshole’ in a high intonation. Finally, both of them fight. Oakes is partner of Shaw, and Hoob is a cop who wants to catch Shaw. So, it can be concluded that they are enemies. In this movie, the word ‘asshole’ is used by Oakes to insult Hoob. So the function of the swear word is abusive.

3. Auxiliary
There are 12 words as auxiliary in the data. The characters in this movie used auxiliary swearing without reveal anything. It is just to emphasize their statement or question. But it is not particular meaning to the hearer. In this data, the researcher found the word hell, shit as the auxiliary function. According based on the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

Excerpt 26:
[Afternoon, at the road in Spain]
531. Sha : Okay, Jah. Take it to the other side.
532. Let : What the hell is wrong with you? This isn’t part of the plan.

The conversation takes place in the street at Spain. Roman tries to catch the tank that drives by Jah. In the tank Shaw tells Jah to turn back, so it makes their in wrong way because that is only one way. This situation make the tank crashes car of people who are in the front of tank. Letty disappointed to Shaw, because it is not plan like this in their mission. She expresses her disappointment by saying the word ‘hell’ in low intonation. In this context, the word ‘hell’ does not reveal anything. It used to emphasize Letty’s question to Shaw, and it does have not any particular effect to the hearer. So the function of swear word is auxiliary.

4. Humorous
There are 6 words as humorous in the data. The characters in this movie used humorous to making jokes in others without aim to insulting. In this data, the researcher found the words ass, shit as the humorous function. According based on the analysis, the researcher found the data as follows:

Excerpt 31:
[Afternoon, at the hospital in Spain]
3. Dom : You’re a great father, Brian.
4. Bri : What makes you so sure?
5. Dom : Because I’ll be there to kick your ass if you ain’t.
        Get in there. Go
        Brian! Remember the second you go through those doors,
        everything changes. Our old life is done. Let’s go for a little ride.

The conversation takes place at the hospital in Spain. Brian and Dom arrive in the hospital to see Mia who births a baby. Mia is Brian’s wife and she also Dom’s sister. Dom feels excite because Brian becomes a father; he expresses his proud to Brian by saying ‘I’ll be there to kick your ass’ . It means to beat up. But, in this situations the word ‘ass’ is considered as a joke. It is used by a between friends, Dom and Brian have close relation. It happens because he is Dom’s brother in law.
CONCLUSION
From the previous chapter, it can be concluded as follows:

This research was about swear words expressed by the characters in the movie *Fast and Furious 6* by Neal H. Moritz. The researcher would like to know the types of swear words uttered by the all characters and the most types of swear words stated by them. Moreover the researcher would like to know the reasons for using swear words. This research was a descriptive research; it was analyzed in several steps. After the researcher analyzed all of the research questions, it was found that there were three types of swear words expressed by the characters. There are religion, body effluvia and sexuality swear words. Disease and racial slurs swear were not find in this data. The reasons for using swear words were expletive, abusive, auxiliary and humorous.

From the swear words mostly expressed by the characters, it was found that religion swear with 21 was the most dominant swear words, it is mostly used because this is American movie, and majority of American use religion swear word to show the close relation between friends. Moreover, many American are Christian (http://religions.pewforum.org/reports), so there is a possibility they use Christian swear word. It can be related also from the scene in which Dom gives Letty a Christ’s necklace (cross). The second is body effluvia swear with 19. The last is sexuality swear with 17, it becomes the last dominant because the theme in this movie is action, so they did not focus in sexual term. In addition, disease and racial slurs were not found in this data. Meanwhile, it was found that there are four reasons for using swear words. The mostly chosen reason that used is expletive with 25 words; it is mostly used by the characters because in this movie they express more emotional reaction without any particular meaning. The second is abusive with 14 words. The third is auxiliary with 12 words. The last is humorous with 6 words; it becomes the last dominant by the characters because the genre of this movie is action. It makes the characters focus in their mission, so they should be serious in communication.

REFERENCES


