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TABOO WORDS IN POP, ROCK, AND HIP HOP SONGS

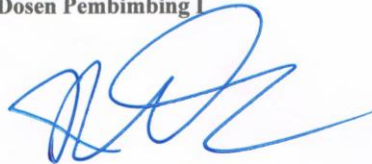
Disusun dan Diajukan oleh:
RISKA JULI RAHMAYANTI
NIM. 2113220034

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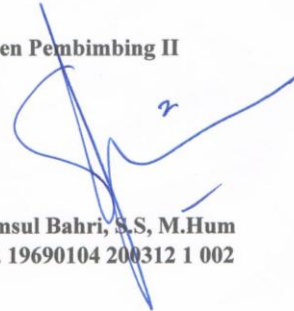
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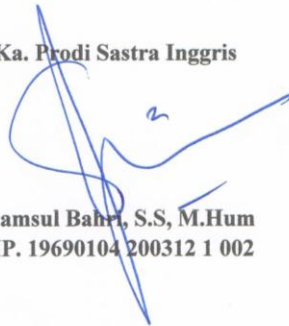
Prof. Amrin Saragih, M.A, Ph.D
NIP. 19550113 198203 1 002

Dosen Pembimbing II



Syamsul Bahri, S.S, M.Hum
NIP. 19690104 200312 1 002

Ka. Prodi Sastra Inggris



Syamsul Bahri, S.S, M.Hum
NIP. 19690104 200312 1 002

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MEDAN

*Riska Juli Rahmayanti

**Amrin Saragih

**Syamsul Bahri

ABSTRACT

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The study deals with the Taboo words uttered by the singer of pop, rock, and hip hop songs . The objective of this study was to identify the kinds and the reason of taboo words used by the songs in pop, rock, and hip hop genres. The source of the data was lyrics of three latest album in recent five years (2010-2015) which lead three genres; Miley Cyrus for pop, Linkin Park for rock, and Nicki Minaj for hip hop. Each of singers brought five songs as the data. The data were collected by selecting lyrics containing taboo words after listening the song and matching the lyrics from internet carefully. The results of this study were four kinds of taboo words; offensive slang, profanity, sexual referent, and scatological referent occurred in the songs and the most dominant kinds of taboo word appeared was offensive slang.

Keywords : *Kinds of taboo words, Lyrics, Pop, Rock, and Hip Hop songs*

*Graduate Status

**Lecturer Status

INTRODUCTION

Background of the Study

Most of the people in the world love music, from kids to adult. Music is one of the favorite entertainment for people, especially for young people like teenagers. By listening the music, it can influence the emotion of people, happy, sad, angry, free, or relax.

Many people spend their time to listen the music through electronic media such as mobile phone, MP3 player, television, tablets, or digital video disc (DVD). Music also is needed in many aspect of life such as in wedding party, birthday party, also in religious relationship.

Every song has lyrics that help listener to get the message or to know what the song is talking about. Lyrics related to the language. Language is always changed during the time, because the development of language is smooth. There will influence a language to the society then the progress of society will influence the language itself. The language has the flexible character to receive from the society which related to sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is study the relationship between language and society (Holmes, 2001: 1). But unfortunately, there are songs insert taboo words in the lyrics. Taboo words is proscription of behavior that affects everyday life (Allan and Burrige, 2006: 1). Now days, taboo words is like universal language in this globalization era, the used of taboo words had been trademark of somebody to convey his emotional feeling. It is showed by many lyrics that contain of taboo words itself.

Song actually has many genres. Three most popular of genres song are Pop, Rock, and Hip Hop. Many singers who concern with that genres. This genres has been consuming for much society. But some of the singers use taboo words in their song freely. People especially teenagers accept it as a trend in this present time and effect has included the children. Some of them know about the meaning but they still sing it, others do not know the meaning and sing it loudly, that's why the writer choose this title, because the three genres which most popular for listeners contain the taboo words in the some of songs reflect moral value to us. The moral value in the songs relevance to the behavior, ethics, and also language which using in daily activities, when people do interaction each other. This study will help the readers and listeners to know everything relate to taboo words in this time.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Jay (2009: 153) defines that taboo words are sanctioned or restricted on both institutional and individual levels under the assumption that some harm will occur if a taboo word is spoken. Another, Allan and Burrige (2006: 1) say that taboo is proscription of behavior that affects everyday life. Taboos arise out of social constraints on the individual's behavior where it can cause discomfort, harm or injury. Taboo is not absolute. New taboo can emerge in especially in slang. Taboo words range from the mildly offensive (damn, fart) to the very offensive (cunt, nigger). The word of offensiveness or

appropriateness depend on contextual variables, and our sensitivity to the context has been demonstrated in numerous studies.

Grohol (2009) writes in his article based on Jay's theory, taboo words can be used for a variety of reasons, included to achieve a specific reaction from others. Swearing injects a direct, succinct emotional component into the discussion, usually in order to express frustration, anger or surprise.

The kinds of taboo words are divided by the expert's own theory. Basicly the theory is developement of taboo words where taboo word is dynamic language. Jay (2009), Batistella (2005), Devito (1986) explain their theory about the kinds of taboo words. This research divided kinds of taboo words into four kinds ; offensive slang, profanity, sexual referent, scatological referent.

Table Kinds of Taboo Words

| No | Kinds of Taboo Words |
|----|------------------------|
| 1 | Offensive Slang |
| 2 | Profanity |
| 3 | Sexual Referents |
| 4 | Scatological Referents |

1) Offensive Slang

Offensive slang or insulting is various types of slurs. It usually refers to race, ethnicity, gender, psychological, physical or sexuality. Word offensiveness depends on contextual variables and sensitivity to the

context. Taboo words range from the mildly offensive to the very offensive. It related to lack of respect for others on the part of the speaker.

Example : fuck, bitch, nigger, bastard, etc.

2) Profanity

Profanity is religious related term. Battistella believes that the feature of profanity is that it involves the coarse use of what is taken to be sacred (Battistella, 2005:72). While Jay (1996:10) writes that profanity is based on the church's distinction between Secular and religious speech.

Example : oh my God, Jesus, Crist

3) Sexual Referent or sexual harassment

Sexual referent refers to unwanted sexual remarks, dirty jokes, references to one's appearance, or sexual behavior (Jay in Ekstrom, 2008:8). Actually, this term is constantly changing in its definition. It references to body parts and sex term. Example : pussy, ass, hole, etc

4) Scatological Referent

Scatological refers to disgusting object. It refers to the term of human waste product or process. For easy, people used more scatological referent that the scientific origin when they are in toilet. Example : piss, shit.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY AND FINDINGS

Methodology

This research used descriptive qualitative. Best & Kahn (1993:105) state that descriptive method is concerned with condition or relationship that exist, opinions that are held, process that are going on, effects that are evident, or trends that are developing. So this method accounts for accumulation of the basic data. It meant this study did not intend to find out a new theory but this study was purposed to describe the theory.

This research took the three latest album in recent five years (2010-2015) of the singer who carries each of genres : Pop, Rock, and Hip Hop songs. Miley Cyrus's songs who carry pop genre, Linkin Park's songs who carry rock genre, and Nicki Minaj's songs who carry hip hop genre. The data took from lyrics in five songs's each singers above which contain many taboo lyrics.

In collecting the data in this research, the writer read all of lyrics's song of Miley Cyrus, Linkin Park, and Nicki Minaj song. After that the writer identified the kinds of taboo words in Miley Cyrus, Linkin Park, and Nicki Minaj's songs which meant identified the kinds of taboo words in three genres used the previous theory.

Techniques of Analyzing the Data

After collecting the whole data of taboo words in Miley Cyrus, Linkin Park, and Nicki Minaj's songs, the data must be analyzed. The writer used descriptive qualitative design. There were 4 steps as follow.

1. Classified the taboo words into four kinds (offensive slang, profanity, sexual referent, scatological referent)
2. Converted the occurrences into proportion of percentages
3. Derived the dominant kinds of taboo words in the song lyrics.
4. Derived the most dominant taboo words between pop, hip hop, and rock songs.

Findings

The analysis revealed the kinds of taboo words in three popular genres, pop songs, rock songs, and hip hop songs. After analyzing the data, some findings were found as follow.

1. The four kinds of taboo words applied in three genres which pop, rock, and hip hop songs. The total words of taboo in pop songs were 33 where offensive slang were 19 (57.6%), profanity were 6 (18.2%), sexual referent were 3 (9%), and scatological referent were 5 (15.2%). The total words of taboo in rock songs were 14 where offensive slang was only one kind of taboo word (100%), meanwhile profanity, sexual referent, and scatological referent were (0%.) The total words of taboo in hip hop songs were 154

where offensive slang were 90 (58.5%), profanity were 7 (4.5%), sexual referent were 49 (31.8%), and scatological referent were 8 (5.2%).

Table of Percentage the Kinds of Taboo Words

| No | Genres | Kinds of Taboo Words | | | |
|----|---------------|----------------------|---------------|---------------------|---------------------------|
| | | Offensive Slang (%) | Profanity (%) | Sexual Referent (%) | Scatological Referent (%) |
| 1. | pop songs | 57.6 | 18.2 | 9 | 15.2 |
| 2. | rock songs | 100 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 3. | hip hop songs | 58.5 | 4.5 | 31.8 | 5.2 |

- The most dominant kind of taboo words used in pop, rock, and hip hop songs was offensive slang. It had been known that all data (lyrics of songs) used this kind.

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusion

Based on the data analysis of research the kinds of taboo words in three popular genres, pop songs, rock songs, and hip hop songs. the writer wants to present the conclusions. The conclusions were related to the problems of the study. Conclusion were drawn the following :

- Four kinds of taboo words were applied in the song lyrics of two genres which pop, and hip hop songs. They were a. offensive slang, b. profanity, c.

sexual referent, and d. scatological referent. Rock song had only one kind of taboo words was offensive slang. The total numbers of all taboo words in three genres were 201 words where for pop songs were 33, for rock songs were 14 and for taboo in hip hop songs were 154.

(2) The most dominant kind of taboo words used in three genres was offensive slang.

Suggestions

Some suggestions were presented in this part. This study hopefully can give advantageous information both theoretically and practically. Suggestion were staged as the following.

1. The students who learnt in linguistics and students who interested in this study should now understand about the kinds of taboo words and differentiate the four kinds of taboo words till this knowledge can be useful for students who wanted doing research deeper about taboo words.
2. The listeners who loved singing and listening the songs especially the song which explained in this thesis to should not sing publicly in appreciating the song so that decreased using of taboo words till made the language as the trend for the young people.

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