

THE INFLUENCE OF USING PROSODY BY RACHEL KRAMER IN CONTROLLING THE SOCIETY IN THE MOVIE “BIG MIRACLE”

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Abstrak

Penelitian ini berfokus pada bagaimana sistem prosodi digunakan oleh karakter wanita di dalam film yang bertujuan untuk menunjukkan dominasi dan solidaritas di dalam percakapan. Sistem prosodi adalah salah satu cabang linguistik yang menggambarkan fonetik dari kata yang tidak dapat berdiri sendiri sehingga membutuhkan sosiolinguistik yang dapat menunjukkan kekuasaan seseorang. Sekarang ini, wanita dapat mengendalikan dan menguasai posisi di dalam jabatan atau pekerjaan dan wanita mempunyai sistem prosodi yang jelas karena wanita dapat membuat fungsi ekspresi yang jelas. Penjelasan berisi tentang (1) macam fungsi ekspresi yang digunakan Rachel Kramer dan lawan bicara yang menunjukkan kekuasaan di dalam film *Big Miracle*; (2) pengaruh sosial dalam penggunaan system prosodi yang digunakan Rachel Kramer dan lawan bicara yang menunjukkan kekuasaan di dalam film *Big Miracle*. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode deskriptif kualitatif sebagai teori utama dari system prosodi oleh David Crystal (2006). Analisis data melalui proses (1) mengatur data sesuai dengan masing-masing macam system prosodi dan (2) mendiskusikan fungsi ekspresi dari system prosodi tersebut dan pengaruh sosial kepada lawan bicara. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa penelitian ini telah menemukan beberapa cabang macam system prosodi yang digunakan Rachel Kramer di dalam film. Sistem prosodi tersebut adalah membuat protes, membuat *lobby*, menanyakan pertanyaan, meminta pertolongan, dan mengekspresikan emosi. Beberapa strategi digunakan untuk menciptakan lawan bicara sementara strategi lainnya digunakan untuk membuat *lobby* kepada lawan bicara dan meredakan situasi. Karakter yang menciptakan dominasi adalah Rachel Kramer yang mendominasi semua karakter. Sistem prosodi diucapkan oleh Rachel Kramer di dalam film “Big Miracle” yang bertujuan untuk menciptakan dominasi dengan mengendalikan percakapan dan menunjukkan solidaritas sebagai simbol kekuasaan seseorang.

Kata Kunci: *Sistem prosodi, kekuasaan, pengaruh sosial*

Abstract

Prosodic systems are one of linguistic feature that describes the phonetic and sound of the word which is unable to stand alone that it needs the sociolinguistic showing power. Now days, woman has many controls and powers in occupation or position and woman's prosodic systems has the clear prosodic systems because she can make clear functional expression. This study focuses on how the prosodic systems run within the woman characters in the movie correlating to the purpose of showing both dominance and solidarity in conversation. The description consists of (1) what the functional expression of Rachel Kramer and the interlocutor showing power in the movie *Big Miracle*; (2) how the social impact of using prosodic systems by Rachel Kramer and the interlocutor showing power in the movie *Big Miracle*. This research uses descriptive qualitative method using the main theory of prosodic systems by David Crystal (2006) and theory of power by Norman Fairclough (2010). The data analysis requires the process of (1) ordering the data based on each sub sections prosodic systems and power; (2) describing the functional expression of using those kind prosodic systems and the social impact to interlocutors. The result shows that this study has found functional expression by using prosodic systems used by Rachel Kramer in the movie. They are making protest, making lobbying, asking question, asking help, and expressing feeling. Each of the strategies has their own function and effect to interlocutor depending on the content, relation, and subject in

conversations. Rachel Kramer who expresses functional expression through prosodic systems in the movie “Big Miracle” leads a purpose to both create domination by gaining the conversation floor and showing solidarity as a sign of powerless person.

Keywords: *Prosodic systems, power, social impact*

INTRODUCTION

The successful conversation happens when the speaker encodes and the interlocutor decodes the intended meaning of the utterance. Prosodic system is the perspectives that focused on conversational inference and on participants through the communication that can negotiate the frames of interpretations and the features of an utterance that can show the right signal to get the interpretation and the action of listeners as what the speakers want. Prosodic systems is also the expression of feelings using prosodic elements of speech. John Gumperz analyzed prosody in conversational analysis which is the process of prosody that informed guessing based on the physical setting that the speaker knows, the participants and their background, and the relation between the situation and the activities. It means that the successful conversation can be analyzed by using prosodic systems which shows functional expression and relates with the other linguistic feature which is power. Women often use prosodic systems with the clear and brief intonation to make sure that they can deliver their utterance clearly showing their expression and their purpose through their power.

- **Prosodic Systems**

Prosody is one of contextualization cues that are the perspectives that focused on conversational inference and participants through the communication that can negotiate the frames of interpretations. Prosody is used in speech or conversation to make the first signaling of interpretations and the effects of speech or conversation will come in the next speech. The signaling of prosody depends on discourse context and the experience of the listeners.

David Crystal (1969) listed types of prosody in his book *Prosodic Systems and Intonation in English* (1969). Crystal said that prosodic features might be given comparable combination, means that prosodic features must be made as the choice that can be available from all the speech patterns in the language and can combined with the other (segmental) features in order to deliver a complete utterance which has both a segmental and a prosodic phonetic/phonological character.

Prosodic features maybe defined as a vocal effects constituted by variations along the measurements of pitch, loudness, durations, and silence. David Crystal divided seven types of prosodic systems as no segmental phonation, they are tone (pitch duration), pitch range, pause, loudness, tempo, rhythmically, and tension.

- **Functional Expression**

The functional expression of prosodic systems has the complex functional expression by combining several kinds of prosodic systems. Intonation contours must be interpreted bearing in mind the existence of systematic interrelationships with other non-segmental features and other levels of language organization. The prosodic systems of tone and pitch-range work along with loudness, tempo and rhythmically contrasts in particular, but while stress is sometimes brought into the discussion, other factors rarely are. O'Connor & Arnold (1961, p. 169), the different pressure or intonation gives the different interpretation. The low rising tone in English interprets as conveying number of different attitudes on a statement, for example, encouraging further conversation, guarded, reserving judgment, reprovably critical, resentful, deprecatory, etc.

- **Power**

Norman Fairclough also stated three constraints with the social effects of each constraint by relating with the three constraints before. He made framework to describe clearly how the utterance can be successful through the factors and the effects from the utterance.

Constraints	Social Effects
Contents	Knowledge and Beliefs
Relations	Social Relationships
Subjects	Social Identities

Table 3.1: Social Impact Framework

The first constraint is contents and the social effect is knowledge and beliefs which relates with social effect. Every utterances have each content which shows topic and discussion of dialogue. The interlocutor decodes the content message of speaker's

utterance and gives the response. This response is called the social effect.

The second constraint is relation and the social effect is social relationship. Relation means the relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor. The relationship between the speaker and the interlocutor give social effect to their relationship. There is different kind of relationship between before the utterance and after the utterance. It means that the social effect of social relationship is based on the content that they utter.

The third constraint is subject and the social effect is social identities. Subject means how the speaker and the interlocutor occupy their position in their utterance. This constraint relates with content and relation constraint. The social effect of social identities is based on what the speaker and the interlocutor talks and what is their relationship. The subject follows the next rule of third constraint. So, these three constraints are analyzed together because they affect each other.

This study uses 3 research questions. They are in what linguistic strategies do lesbian use with their partner in the movie *Reaching for the Moon*, how are the reasons of using those kind of linguistic strategies used by lesbian and how are the effect to interlocutors of using those kind of linguistic strategies used by lesbian.. The purpose of this study is to categorize the kinds of linguistic strategies used by lesbian, the reason of using those linguistic strategies and the effect to interlocutors resulted from the use of those kinds of linguistic strategies used by lesbian. All of the research questions are about in *Reaching for the Moon* movie.

METHOD

The research type used in this study is descriptive qualitative. In this case, a qualitative research only deals with the words in written and spoken data. The study is more focus in observing the use of linguistic strategy uttered by lesbian, the function of using those linguistic strategies and the effect to interlocutors in *Reaching for the Moon* movie.

The data of this study is the lesbian characters in *Reaching for the Moon* movie. They are also as the subject of the study. Furthermore, the source of data is lesbian characters in *Reaching for the Moon* movie. This movie is used as the primary data. It is an adaptation movie which is based on the lesbian characters's real life.

The key instrument of this study is the researcher. There are also some tools which are needed to support this research. They are soft file video of *Reaching for the Moon* movie and earphone.

In the process of collecting the data, the observation is the technique to collect the data. According to Wray (1998:186), the observation is not enough to be done once, but ongoing. The collected data are based on the *Reaching for the Moon* movie. The observation is to note the use of linguistic strategy uttered by lesbian, the function of using those linguistic strategies and the effect to interlocutors. In this case, the observation sheet is used to note and transcribe it.

After collecting the data, it comes to the process to analyze the data in this study. The theory which is used for the data analysis technique is from Miles and Huberman (1992). They said that in analyzing the data, it needs three steps. They are data reduction, data display, and the last is conclusion drawing and verification.

DISCUSSION

Table 1 Data Analysis Result

Scene	S/I	Functional Expression	Social Impact		
			Content – Social Effect	Relation – Social Relationship	Subject – Social Identities
8	S (Rachel)	Making protest	Protest new rule – social gap	Animal protection's leader & oil drilling leader – worse social relationship	Deliver protest and opinion as activist & keep image as higher social status – keep social identities as higher social status & middle social status
	I (Ted)	Expressing feeling			
14	S (Rachel)	Making protest	Protest unshared news – social gap	Animal protection's leader & reporter –	Deliver protest as activist and Adam's ex-
	I (Ada)	Expressing			

	m)	ng feeli ng		worse social relation ship	girlfrien d & feel careless - keep each social identities as middle social status
1 5	S (Rac hel)	Mak ing prot est	Making protest of Govern or Haskell's rejection - social gap	Animal protecti on's leader & govern ment - worse social relation ship	Deliver protest as activist & show power as higher social status - keep social identities as higher social status & middle social status
	I (Gov ernor Hask ell)	- Telli ng som ethi ng - Exp ressi ng feeli ng			
3 7	S (Rac hel)	Mak ing prot est	Protest Inupiat tribe's contribu tion - social gap	Animal protecti on's leader & local tribe - worse social relation ship	Deliver protest as activist & calming down the situation as lower social status - keep social identities as middle social status & lower social status
	I (Roy)	Exp ressi ng feeli ng			
3 7	S (Rac hel)	Mak ing lobb	Lobby Roy and Inupiat	Animal protecti on's	Lobby Roy and Inupiat

		y	tribe to stop killing the whales - social gap	leader & govern ment - worse social relation ship	tribe as activist & telling the their reason - keep social identities as lower social status & middle social status
	I (Roy)	Exp ressi ng Feeli ng			
3 7	S (Rac hel)	Mak ing lobb y	Lobby Roy and Inupiat tribe to stop killing the whales - social gap	Animal protecti on's leader & govern ment - worse social relation ship	Lobby Roy and Inupiat tribe as activist & telling the their reason - keep social identities as lower social status & middle social status
	I (Roy)	Telli ng Som ethi ng			
1 4	S (Rac hel)	Aski ng ques tion	Ask question about detail news - social cooperat ion	Animal protecti on's leader & reporter - closed relation ship	Ask detail news as animal's protectio n leader & tell detail conditio n as reporter - change social

					identities
	I (Adam)	Telling something			
15	S (Rachel)	Asking help	Ask help - social cooperation	Animal protection's leader & government - closed social relationship	Ask help as activist & show power as higher social status - keep social identities
	I (Governor Haskell)	Asking question			
132	S (Ted)	Expressing feeling	Express feeling - social cooperation	Animal protection's leader & government - closed social relationship	Express feeling of apologetic & express feeling of pleased - change social identities
	I (Rachel)	Expressing feeling			

The Functional Expression of Prosodic Systems

Based on the data analysis, it can be seen that this study has found some linguistic strategies used by lesbians in the movie. They are interruption, indirectness, topic rising, silence and adversativeness. The results are as following the explanation of Tannen (1994) about linguistic strategy. Tannen mentioned that some linguistic strategies in turn taking system are interruption, indirectness, adversativeness, silence, topic rising, and minimal response. However, the linguistic strategy minimal response does not appear in this movie.

They have different function in every conversation related to the context in the conversation whether it is shown as the solidarity or the domination toward interlocutors. It is following the theory of relativity in linguistic strategy proposed by Tannen (1994) that the meaning of purpose of the linguistic strategy can be vary depending at least on context, conversational style of participants, and the interaction of participant's style and strategies.

Social Impact of Using Functional Expression Through Prosodic Systems

Certain linguistic strategy can have each different function related to the context of the conversation and the effect to interlocutor can also be different even the strategy used is the same. This is relevant to the theory of relativity in linguistic strategy by Tannen (1994) that linguistic strategies can vary its function according to the context. In the movie it can be seen that Lota, who has male traits, frequently uses her power to gain the conversation floor by using certain strategies in linguistic. Those strategies are interruption and topic rising This is prior to Tannen (1994) stated that men as a class dominate women in our society, and that many individual men seek to dominate women in their lives. In so many ways she interrupts Elizabeth by stopping Elizabeth's sentence before she could finish her sentences (fragment 8, 9, 11, 14, 16, 22). Tannen (1994) argues that if one speaker repeatedly overlaps and another repeatedly gives way, the resulting communication is unbalanced which then creates the domination effect.

In addition, the function to gain the conversation floor can also be seen through linguistic strategy topic rising. Shuy (1982), stated that topic rising, similar to interruption, is used mostly for dominating the floor of conversation. Topic rising also violates the turn taking system by setting a topic in the beginning of the conversation making the interlocutor to choose to follow the topic given. Topic raising is used as the starter of making a conversation and ensures a conversation to be happened (fragment 10 and 20).

The function of showing power to create domination is seen through the linguistic strategy adversativeness or engaging in verbal conflict. As it has been stated by Tannen (1994) that male speaker tends to engage in verbal conflict by arguing, issuing command, and taking the opposing stands. Adversativeness also can be used as a sign of anger, like in the fragment 18 and 25 where Lota continuously saying harsh sentence toward Elizabeth. Her sentence

like 'how dare you, you are aloof, you are imperious' can be seen as a rude language spoken toward women.

The function as a defensive strategy can be seen through the strategies indirectness and silence. Linguistic strategy indirectness allows the speaker to convey a sensitive message without hurting the feeling of interlocutors. For example in the table in fragment 2 shows that Mary answers Lota's question implicitly. She utters circuitous sentence making Lota to ask Mary for the second time in order to make Mary answers her question clearly. The way Mary answer Lota's question in circuitous way is in willing to not to hurt Lota's feeling.

In addition, the function of defensive strategy is also seen through linguistic strategy silence since the purpose of silence is used to avoid conflict. Furthermore, the silence in turn taking system is mainly to show the powerless people. In this movie, Elizabeth several times remains silent and cannot response the speaker (Lota) for Elizabeth has no power to response the statements. Several times Elizabeth kept silent realizing that she cannot response Lota's statement or it is likely that she is in purpose to avoid conflict and prefer to be silent (fragment 13, 15, 17, 21). She lets Lota to dominate her. This is contrary to the statement from Tannen (1994) and Spender (1980) that men tend to dominate women by silencing them. In other words, men use her power to create domination by silencing them. In this movie, the use of silence is used in the purpose to avoid conflict. The silence of Elizabeth is a sign of powerless person. Knowing that Lota has power in every conversation make Elizabeth has no effort to offense every statement spoken by Lota that contains power and domination.

Another function of the using of linguistic strategy is defend the speaker's pride that can be seen from the use of linguistic strategy topic rising. In this movie, by rising a topic Lota can control the conversation floor and make her having a chance to defend her pride. In fragment 1 Lota raised a topic about her work in building a new house for her and Mary. She raised the topic to impress Elizabeth making Elizabeth remain silent and following to the topic given. By impressing Elizabeth it is seen that Lota is controlling the flow of conversation floor.

Issuing command as the function of adversativeness strategy is also seen in this movie. This is following to Tannen (1994) that men tend to engage in conflict by arguing, issuing command, and taking the opposing stands. In fragment 4 and 7 Lota said harsh language in the purpose to issuing command

toward Elizabeth. In fragment 4 Lota commanded Elizabeth not to have a cheer with her and the other guest in Lota's house. While in fragment 7 Lota issued Elizabeth to keep staying at Samambaia by saying harsh sentence toward Elizabeth. By issuing command I harsh sentence Lota creates the domination toward Elizabeth making Elizabeth become the oppressed character in this movie.

CONCLUSION

This research found that the linguistic strategies are used by the lesbian in the movie "Reaching for the Moon" taken from the conversation spoken by them. The reasons of using linguistic strategy itself vary according to the context and the interlocutor they are talking to even the strategy used is the same. By using certain strategies in conversation the effect to interlocutors can be seen through the use of linguistic strategies and the function of using those linguistic strategies.

This study shows that the linguistic strategies used by lesbian in the movie "Reaching for the Moon" are interruption, indirectness, silence, topic rising, and adversativeness. However, the linguistic strategy minimal response does not appear in the movie. Each of the strategies has their own function and effect to interlocutor depending on the context in conversations. Some functions of using linguistic strategies are to gain conversation floor (interruption and topic rising), to show power toward interlocutor (interruption and adversativeness), to avoid conflict (indirectness and silence), to defend speaker's pride (topic rising), and to issuing command (adversativeness).

Each of the strategies has the effect to interlocutor. By using certain strategy in linguistic one can uses power to result unbalanced communication which then creates the domination effect to interlocutors. The strategies that used to create domination effect to the interlocutor are as interruption, topic rising, and adversativeness. In this movie, the one that results domination effect is Lota dominating Elizabeth. Lota become the dominant lesbian since she frequently dominates Elizabeth in every conversations. Lota has a power to use powerful sentence creating a power to dominate Elizabeth.

While on the other hand, the lack of using linguistic strategies make Elizabeth become oppressed person for she had no power to offense the strategies given by Lota. It is as the indication of the subordinate effect resulting from the use of domination strategy

spoken by Lota toward Elizabeth. In other words, the character that has no power has a tendency to use defensive strategy such as indirectness and silence in a purpose to avoid conflict to any other character in the movie. However, at the end of the movie Elizabeth tries to use her power to offense Lota's oppression by leaving her to New York.

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