

# Swear Language Among Students in Three Universities in Makassar, Indonesia: A Psycholinguistic Study

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**Abstracts:** This research is entitled Swear Language Among Students in Three Universities in Makassar, Indonesia: A Psycholinguistic Study. The aim of this research is 1) to explain the forms of swear language among Makassar students. 2) explain the types and psychological processes of curse language among students, and 3) describe the function of verbal language among Makassar students. The research method used is the observation method. The data collection techniques used were notes and SBLC (Limit-Free Involvement Cakap). Note technique: listening while taking notes. Meanwhile, SBLC can freely listen to swear words from students directly. Data analysis uses descriptive methods, namely analyzing data as it is. The research results show that. Forms of expression using animal names, body parts, threats, and Makassar language. The mental process of swearing is triggered by emotions, whether happy emotions or angry emotions. The function of swearing language for students is familiarity, teasing, and emotional outbursts.

**Keywords:** Language, Swearing, Familiarity, Teasing, Outburst of Emotion.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language Background according to Bloomfield (1933) explains that language is a system of symbols in the form of arbitrary sounds that are used by people to interact. The meaning of a word depends on the conventions (agreements) of the language community in question. Humans as social creatures certainly interact with other people. When humans interact using language, both verbally and non-verbally, humans naturally think about what they will report or inform their friends or interlocutors. The communication process between the speaker and the listener involves psychological and mental processes, as well as the influence of the situation and conditions of speech.

The branch of linguistics that is related to mental processes or psychological processes in language is psycholinguistics. Psycholinguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies human psychological or mental processes in speaking and its manifestation can be seen through both verbal and nonverbal actions. Human communication cannot be separated from mental processes and psychological processes. Likewise, when students communicate with fellow students or with their lecturers, they do not use mental processes or psychological processes. Students communicate often using swear language, whether in a state of anger, praise, annoyance, and creating a friendly atmosphere. Although the use of swear language is also used in disputes and differences of opinion. Swear language is slur language, it is not polite or not nice to say or use. Swear language is usually used by students towards close friends (Allan, 1986). However, sometimes students use swear language towards friends they are not familiar with, causing offense. As a result of being offended, disputes or fights often occur between them. Several forms of swear language are often uttered by students in Makassar: *devill!*, *asu*, *jomloh*, *sundala*, *insolent*, *tai laso*, *battala*, and others.

Examples in sentences.

1. Thank you, said a student. The answer was "You're welcome, Satan!"
2. Asuko, you don't want to come to my boarding house. This curse was uttered by a student to his close friend because he didn't want to come to his boarding house.
3. You're single! This curse was uttered by a student to a friend or interlocutor who did not want to lend him a book

The spoken words uttered by students to their interlocutor psycholinguistically involve a mental process when pronouncing these words and these words influence their hearing thoughts, in this case the friend or interlocutor. This influence occurs because of the conditions and situations when the speech occurs. If the situation is a situation that is said to be familiar, then there will be no offense. However, if it is not in a familiar situation, then there will be offense.

This research focuses on the forms and types of swear language, the process by which swear language occurs, and the function and purpose of swear language for students.

#### Formulation of the problem

Based on the explanation above as an introduction, the problem can be structured, namely:

1. What are the forms of swear language among Makassar students?
2. What are the types and psychological processes of swearing among students?
3. What is the function of expression language among Makassar students?

#### Writing purpose

1. Explain the forms of swear language among Makassar students.
2. Explain the types and psychological processes of swear language among students.
3. Describe the function of expression language among Makassar students.

## 2. RESEARCH METHODS

This research was conducted by collecting data directly in the field on student WhatsApp at three State Universities in Makassar (Unhas, UIN, and UNM).

The data collected will be analyzed using a psycholinguistic approach. This swear language spoken by students at three State Universities in Makassar will be analyzed for the forms and types of swear language, the process by which swear words occur, and the function and purpose of using spoken language. The data collection method used was the observation method. The listening method according to Mahsun (2005) states that the listening method is a method of collecting data by listening to language use. The data collection techniques used were notes and SBLC (Limit Free Involvement (talking)). Note technique by listening while taking notes. Mean while, SBLC can freely listen to swear words from students directly.

## 3. LITERATURE REVIEW

### 3.1 Swear Language

Understanding Swear Language Swear language is a linguistic phenomenon that is often used by speakers in various media such as magazines, newspapers, or films or in everyday life. Swearing is something that is considered taboo and violates the norms that apply in society. Anggreni, et al (2018:122) explain that swearing is part of hate speech. According to Robiah (2018), swear words are words that are often used in society when they are uncomfortable. Swearing is usually used when expressing feelings of annoyance, discomfort, annoyance, anger, hatred, or offense at someone's words or behavior (Wijana, Putu, and Rohmadi, 2013). The form of swearing in each language usually refers to the names of animals, body parts related to sex, and things that are considered dirty and disgusting. Triggers for speakers to use swear language are various situations and conditions. These curses can be said directly orally or written and displayed in various media. One of the media that allows someone

to curse is YouTube media or WhatsApp media. displays various videos from content creators (people who create certain content in a media). This includes various types of videos, one of which is with the theme of online games or commonly known as online games. Videos that contain online games usually contain game analysis, how to play, tips and tricks, or other creative videos that are made in such a way as to attract the audience's interest. Swearing or cursing that is often heard may be imitated and spoken by people in everyday life, so that it will have an impact on the coarsening of language (dysphemism).

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### **3.2. Function of Swear Language**

The functions of swear language are: 1. Familiarity 2. Expression of emotion 3. As a greeting. Usually people who are familiar use expressions. According to Masykur (2010) that swear language is usually used in a state of anger. However, now with the times. Swear language is often used to express familiarity or is also used as a greeting. Emotional expression is also a function of emotional language. One of the conditions that often occurs in humans is anger, in this condition humans tend to speak swear words. According to Robiah (2018), swear words are words that are often used in society when they are uncomfortable. In certain areas, when greeting someone, they use swear language. What is done is the habit of swearing. In Makassar, fat people are usually called battala (fat). This word is said if we are familiar with the owner of the fat body. If not, don't try it, the owner of the fat body will definitely be angry.

### **3.3. Psycholinguistics**

Understanding Psycholinguistics is a branch of linguistics, namely applied linguistics. Psycholinguistics combines linguistics and psychology. Linguistics is the science of language that studies phonology, morphology and syntax, as well as discourse (Suassure, 1993). Psychology is the science of the soul. According to Plato and Aristotle (in Cher, 2003) states that psychology is a science that studies the nature of the soul and studies the process from beginning to end. According to Wilhem Wundt, psychology is a science that not only studies the nature of the soul, but also studies the experiences that are felt and that arise. Psychology makes a complementary contribution to important things in language (in Lambert, 1972). So, if these two words are combined, psychology and linguistics become psycholinguistics. Several experts have defined it. First, Robert Lado stated that psycholinguistics is a combined approach of psychology and linguistics to the study or study of language knowledge. Second, Langacker argues that psycholinguistics is the technical acquisition of language and linguistic behavior, the psychological mechanisms that are responsible. Third, Antonius defines psycholinguistics as the science of language which explains the use of language with psychological concepts. Fourth, Nurhayati (2006) stated that psycholinguistics studies psychological and mental processes, humans which produce certain actions both verbally and non-verbally (Nurhayati, 2006). Fifth, Pateda (1988:13) said that psycholinguistics discusses the relationship between language and the brain. From the five definitions by the experts above, it can be concluded that psycholinguistics is the science of language which studies human psychological or mental processes in speaking and their manifestation can be seen through both verbal and non-verbal actions. So, the focus of psycholinguistics is language, not mental symptoms.

Psycholinguistics is useful.

## 4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

After conducting research on the use of swear language among students at three state universities in Makassar, namely: Hasanuddin University, Makassar State University, and IAIN Alaudiiin Makassar as follows.

### 4.1. Forms of Swear Language Among Students

#### a. Swear language using animal words

Dog!!

Bedbug!!

Shucks

Tedong (in language Makassa) 'beef'

Bark

Asu! (in Makassar language) 'dog'

Pig!

Piglets!

#### b. Swear language using body parts

Telaco (in Makassar language) 'dick'

Dick

Telagorr (in Makassar language) 'dick'

Fat

Tanjaknu (in Makassar language) 'your face'

Blind na

Mouth

Sunna

Your eyes

Your face

#### c. Swear language using threatening words

Tappeko (in Makassar language) 'smak'

Work yourself

Your business

Up to you!

d. Swear language using Makassar language

Sundala (in Makassar language) 'bitch'

Suntili (in Makassar language) 'bitch

Tolo (in Makassar language) 'stupid'

Sambala (in Makasar Language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Songkolo'(in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Suntala (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Issengko (in Makassar language) 'you know'

Anasundala (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Sundangdut (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Talekang (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Sambalaq (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Beleng (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

Kabbulamma (in Makassar language) 'expletive of annoyance'

e. Slang language using derogatory words

Stupid

Bitch

You're single

Fuck

Dongo (in Makassar language) 'stupid'

Tolo (in Makassar language) 'stupid'

Sotta (in Makassar language) smart ass'

Crazy mold

Jangcok (in Makassar language)

Bastard

Damn

## 4.2. Psychological Process of Using Swear Language

Based on the data above, there are 6 types of swear language used by students at three State Universities (Unhas, UNM, IAIN Alauddin) in Makassar.

### a. Swear language with animal words,

1) The words dog!!, anjirrr!!, The words dog, anjirr, anjay, asu, kongkong mean dog. The word anjirr is a play on the word anjinh. The word asu comes from the Bugis language and kongkong comes from the Makassar language. The word dog is an animal that is haram for most people in South Sulawesi and is dangerous because it likes to bite, is wild, fierce and disgusting. People use this word dog to curse people who are harmful and disgusting. Among students, these swear words are said because they are irritated or angry with the person they are saying. .

2) The word bastard!!, this swear word in the KBBI means bedbugs or bedbugs. This swear word is intended to have an evil nature such as stealing, pickpocketing, imitating, and so on.

3) Tedong. This swear word comes from the languages of South Sulawesi (Makassar, Bugis, Toraja). Tedong means buffalo. The word swearing is usually used for stupid people, stupid like a buffalo whose nose is poked and doesn't get angry.

4) Pig!, Piglet!. This swear word has the same meaning as dog, which is a dangerous and disgusting animal for some people in South Sulawesi.

Psycholinguistically, the use of swear words is a mental process from the speaker towards his opponent or friend to get the effect of getting a quick response. However, be careful using this animal swear word if you are not familiar with it and it could cause offense to your friend or interlocutor.

### b. Swear language using body parts

1. kontol, telaso, telagorr, used to curse among students in the three high deserts of Makssar. The words dick, telaso, telagorr, and sunna refer to male genitalia. The word telagorr is a play on telaso or tai lasso. These words are addressed to men or fellow male students for familiarity.

2. Tanjaknu, butana, bacot, tongolo, your eyes, your face, the curse word tanjakmu which means 'your looks', butana 'blind', tongolo 'deaf'. These swear words are all parts of the body that are in the face. The curse word tanjaknu is an insult that annoys someone so that the word tanjakmu is thrown out. The meaning in the KBBI of the KBBI is mouth (for example in the sentence Don't talk too much 'Don't talk too much) which means don't talk too much.

3. Fat The word gnedut is a swear word reserved for fat people. This swearing can offend the feelings of the person being cursed at.

### c. Swear language using threatening words

1. Tappeko said, work for yourself, it's your business, whatever! The word tappeko comes from the Makassar language, which means being slapped or beaten, not hard. Used if ordered and not done by the opponent or interlocutor, then the speaker threatens him with the curse word tappe'ko. Sentence

2. Kerjamoko 'yourself' This threatening sentence is uttered if the friend or person you are talking to always bothers you or doesn't want to listen.

3. the word "it's your business" and the word "up to you" are also cursed because of annoyance at people who don't want to listen if they are given understanding.

#### d. Swear language using Makassar language

1. Sundala, suntili, sambalaq, suntala, sundangdut, anasundala, curses in Makassar language above the sundala curse from the word sundal in the KBBI means prostitute, prostitute and street. The swear words are several puns such as suntili, suntala, sundangdut anasundalah. This swear word is very commonly used among students at three universities in Makassar. The mental process that accompanies this swearing is irritation towards the person you are saying. Be careful using these words in Makassar because they can cause anger and fights can occur, even in friendly situations.

#### 2. The curse word kabbulamma

The word kabbulamma or kabbulampe in Makassar means impudent. This swear is also said when experiencing one's own misfortune (for example in the sentence "kabbulamma jinne tena anjari kanre jawaku" translation Damn this cake can't be made).

3. The swear word songkolo from the Indonesian word songkolo means sticky rice. This swear word is a familiar curse among students, diverting it from the word sundala. The curse word beleng means unstable. This swearing word is said if a friend does not understand what is being said, so they are cursed with the word beleng-beleng being duplicated.

4. The expletive word issengko who knows you is also used by students if the speaker doesn't like the conversation.

Swearing in regional languages dominated by Makassarese. Apart from familiarity, you should also be careful when pronouncing it, especially if they are newcomers. Don't cause problems.

#### e. Swear language using derogatory words

1. Swear words stupid, stupid, dongo, fucks. The word dongo, stupid is a linguistic variation of the word stupid. Meanwhile, fcks is an English word which means it is used by students when doing something, but one of their friends is not good at it, so the swear word comes out.

2. The curse word lonte which means prostitute. This word is used by male students to their female friends. This word is very sensitive. If you are not familiar with it, people can be cursed with this word, slut, angry. The mental process that occurs in the speaker when he says this curse word is assuming that his female friend likes to be friends with his male friends.

3. The swear word single, this curse word is used by male students towards female friends because of their closeness. The mental process that occurs on the part of the man is teasing his female friend because the woman ignores him, so this expression comes out.

### 4.3. Function of Swear Language

1. Familiarity: for familiarity from the basic word familiar which means close and close (in the KBBI). The students are very close and have close fraternities, so swear words usually come out. Students in Makassar use swear words for familiarity, for example the words jomlu lu, songkolo, sambala. This swear word was said to the friend he was talking to who was still single. Another word is songkolo. Actually, the word songkolo is a play on sundala (ana sundala). This word is used as a swear word that is more polite than the word Sundanese child. Likewise, the word sambala is also a play on the words Sundanese children for politeness, not Sundanese children.

## 2. Flirting

Students at three state universities in Makassar use swear language because they want to tease their friends. In the Big Indonesian Dictionary, the word teasing from the word *goda* gets the prefix to tease which means to annoy or annoy. When they were playing, someone disturbed their friend. For example, by throwing curse words *single lu*, *your business*, *tappeko* (hit gently), *fat lu*, *tedong* (buffalo).

## 3. Outburst of Angry Emotions

Students in Makassar also use swear language because they are angry. You can be angry because you are annoyed, angry because you are disappointed. Usually, swear words are said by students to their friends because they are angry, annoyed and disappointed. The swear words used are *lonte*, pig, dog, *anjirr*, *tedong*, *anasundala*. Apart from these words, it is also common to curse by using the word physical deficiency, for example the words, *I le'leng* (the black one) because his skin is black), the word *katta* (usually there are surgery marks on the neck), *battala* (fat), and other physical defects. The use of these swear words is spontaneous, if the opposing party invites anger. The mental process of uttering swear words involves actions from the opposing party that are not pleasing to the listener's heart.

## CONCLUSION

The swear language of students at three universities in Makassar (Unhas, UNM, and UIN) includes body parts, animals, threats, using Makassar language, and derogatory words. The functions of swear language among students at these three universities are familiarity, teasing and emotion. This swear language occurs because of mental processes or psychological processes such as feelings of joy, annoyance, disappointment, suspicion, happiness and anger.

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