

Swearing Words in "Euphoria" Television Show Sociolinguistic Study

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Abstract

The purpose of this research is to examine and interpret the swearing words in the "Euphoria" series, as well as the series types and functions. The study used descriptive qualitative techniques, such as data analysis and narrative presentation of the findings. The data was taken from the "Euphoria" television series season one. The results of the study are There are 100 data found in the "Euphoria" television series. There are types of swearing words are related to Sex (50data), 50% and then it serves five functions, related to Excrement (22data), 22% and then it serves five functions, related to Animal (10data), 10% and then it serves three functions, related to Personal Background (7data), 7% and then it serves one functions, related to taboo or religion or oath (3data), 3% and then it serves one functions, related to Mental Illness (6data), 6% and then it serves two functions and types of swearing words related to Racism (2data), 2%. and then it serves two functions Additionally, there are five functions of swearing words that are represented by a type of swearing word in the "Euphoria" tv series. Cathartic Swearing 16%, abusive swearing 32%, emphatic swearing 12%, idiomatic swearing 32%, and Dysphemistic Swearing 6%. As a result, this data is dominated by related to sex for types of swear words by 50 % and the same result in the function of swear words, namely abusive and idiomatic at 32%

Keywords

swearing word; "Euphoria"; sociolinguistic



I. Introduction

Gestures, expressions, and verbal communication can all be used to express feelings. The intensity or other forms of language, such as swearing or rude and courteous language, can express feelings orally. A swear word is a term used to describe offensive words and is usually used to describe a feeling, more intonation and swear words are employed. Swearing is frequently criticized as a negative approach to communication. It is often associated with low social status, poor manners, and a lack of prior education. Education is a very important human need because education has a duty to prepare Human Resources (HR) for the development of the nation and state (Pradana et al, 2020). According to Astuti et al (2019) Education is an obligation of every human being that must be pursued to hold responsibilities and try to produce progress in knowledge and experience for the lives of every individual. Education is one of the efforts to improve the ability of human intelligence, thus he is able to improve the quality of his life (Saleh and Mujahiddin, 2020). Education is expected to be able to answer all the challenges of the times and be able to foster national generations, so that people become reliable and of high quality, with strong characteristics, clear identities and able to deal with current and future problems (Azhar,

2018). Education and skills are the main keys in gaining social status in community life (Lubis et al, 2019).

This is not without purpose; it could be because it is clearer what feelings are being stated this way. Swearing words have been heard by individuals of all ages, from young to the elderly, so it is natural for some, although specialists have their interpretations. According to Andersen (as cited in Midjord, 2013:20), swearing forms part of everyday language use for people of all ages and cultures worldwide. Although many swear words have lost their literal meanings and people are more accepting of swear words than they were previously, the usage of swear words still has the capacity to provoke. Swearing terms are linked to sociolinguistics research because sociolinguistics studies how language use interacts with or is affected by social characteristics such as gender, ethnicity, age, or economic status.

There are many swear words such as Fuck, Holy Shit, and Bitch. People uttered swear words to express their happiness, sadness, and anger. Expressing emotions with swear words can be done after the intonation. However, in terms of text, some words depend on the intonation. "I am fucking love it" is to express happiness, "I broke up with this bitch, and it hurts so much" is to express sadness and "go away, you asshole!" it is for express anger. Those examples are verified that without intonation, the words; love, hurt, and exclamation mark make the readers easily understand the feeling. Swearing words are easily found in any aspect and genre. One of them is a TV show. There are so many swearing words in the TV show "Euphoria".

"Euphoria" tv show is adapted from an Israeli show of the same title; all the episodes are written by the executive producer himself, namely Sam Levinson (Assassination Nation). The television show "Euphoria" follows a group of high school kids as they navigate love and friendship in a world driven by drugs, sex, trauma, and social media. The dark side of "Euphoria" is revealed, and it is the worst thing that can happen to a teenager today. Parental education, and friendship, combined with the effect of social media and the freedom to search for information on the internet, influence the growth and development of adolescents. Today's teenagers are good at deceiving their parents. It depicts how today's parents may be unaware of and unconcerned about what their children do on social media or outside the home. Swearing words have an impact on the environment, friendship, and culture. As a result, this research aims to examine the swear words used in the "Euphoria" television show.

II. Review of Literature

2.1 Sociolinguistic

According to Simatupang (2019) as cited in (Simatupang & Amalia, 2019), Sociolinguistics is concerned with the relationship between language and the context in which it is used. They are concerned with understanding the social purposes of language and how it is utilized to express social meaning and explain why we speak differently in different social circumstances. Examining how people use language in various social circumstances can reveal a lot about how language functions and social ties in a community and how people use language to transmit and develop aspects of their social identity. Sociolinguistics is the field that studies the relationship between language and society, between the uses of language, and the social structure in which the users of the language live Spolsky (1998: 3).

2.2 Swearing Words

Swearing is used in everyday conversation by individuals of all ages and cultures all around the world. Jay Timothy (1999:79) stated, “From a psychological perspective, each person acquires a language and an identity through a collection of behaviors, habits, traits, abilities, and mental processes; these factors shape his or her cursing”. Although many swear words have lost their literal meaning and people have a more easygoing attitude towards swear words than previously, the use of swear words still has the power to provoke (Andersen (as cited in Midjord, 2013:20)). In Short, swearing words are the result of several factors reflecting themselves and expressing emotions.

According to Hughes (2006:208), the varieties of English swear words can be described as swear words related to sex, swear words related to excrement, swear words related to a name of an animal, swear words related to personal background, swear words related to mental illness, swear words related to sexual activities, swear words related to taboo or religion or oath and swear words related to racism.

2.3 Type of swearing words

1. Related to sex

From head to toe, human body parts are produced according to their functions, and sexual organs are designed to produce offspring. Parts of the body are frequently used in offensive languages, such as ass, asshole, and so on.

2. Related to Excrement

Swearing words about excrement are usually merely everyday words that are not appropriate to say in public, such as crap, shit, and piss.

3. Related to Animal

According to the Qur'an, some animals have characteristics that humans can use as a parable for people who have the same characteristics. For instance, donkey, chick, and bitch.

4. Related to Personal Background

Human diversity enriches the world, but it may also be a source of amusement for some people. When said in public, this can be degrading to someone, making people who hear it feel humiliated. Bastard, hooker, slut, and prostitute are just a few examples.

5. Related to taboo or religion or oath

Every religion reflects personality because every religion teaches Goodness. Based Hughes (2006:462) stated, the taboo is generally unmentionable because, on a hierarchical scale, it is either ineffably sacred, like the name of God, or unspeakably vile, like cannibalism or incest. Jay (1992) states that it is considered profane to behave unnecessarily by ignoring religious orders of one belief. For example, God damn, holy carp, Satan

6. Related to Mental Illness

Mental disease, according to WHO, is defined by a mix of ideas, perceptions, feelings, behavior, and inappropriate connections with others. Words related to mental illness are not suitable to say in public—for example, crazy, dumb, stupid, idiot, nuts, and sucker.

7. Related to Racism

According to Oliver C. Cox, racism is an event or situation that judges various actions and values in a group based on its cultural perspective and views all social values of other people outside of themselves as wrong and unacceptable. This disparity leads to ridicule, which leads to the use of swear words. NIGGA, for example.

2.4 Function of swearing words

Swearing can serve five purposes, according to Steven Pinker (2007):

1. Cathartic Swearing

This Swear word is used to express un visible emotions to others, typically uttered in the heart or a low voice, usually to express lousy luck or pain. It is supported by Pinker (2017) that Cathartic swearing is used to express the feelings or emotions of pain, miss fortune, or regret that lead people to curse

2. Abusive Swearing

This Swear word requires a target to be spoken to because other feelings usually accompany it. Finn (2017) states that abusive swearing uses swear words as a weapon to harm others verbally. It is supported by Crystal (2003) that swearing can release the emotional tension of a person. To the target, the speaker says, "fuck you."

3. Emphatic Swearing

Swear words do not always have a bad connotation. Emphatic Swearing is the swearing that underlines and emphasizes a point. In other words, they serve the same purpose as emphasizeers. However, their application in grammatical structure may vary. Pinker (2007) mentioned that emphatic swearing helps people put emotional force through the construction of words that describe more speaker's feelings towards something, some situations, someone, or others. The use of emphatic swearing emphasizes something or demonstrates that it is pretty surprising.

4. Idiomatic Swearing

Based on Pinker (2007), this function also shows that people swear to evoke power in their language through word arrangement and orders without concerning the meaning. It does not describe a state and is not intended to be offensive to anyone. Instead, it tries to catch the listener's attention, exude coolness, or convey to the listener that this is an informal situation.

5. Dysphemistic Swearing

Dysphemistic swearing is the opposite of euphemistic swearing-in in that it encourages listeners to consider contentious or provocative topics. According to Pinker (2007), taboo words are used to describe things negatively when the speaker considers something awful that bad words reach their minds.

III. Research Method

The study was carried out utilizing descriptive qualitative techniques, which included data analysis and narrative presentation of the findings. This method aims to analyze the type of swearing words and the function of swearing words in the TV series "Euphoria". According to Djadjasudarma (1993), the descriptive method is a method that aims to make a description, which is a description of the characteristics and accurately in accordance with nature itself. While Aryet all (2002:22), Qualitative research focuses on understanding social phenomena from the perspective of the human in the study.

This research data was gathered by: (1) looking for films with many swearing words, (2) Watching the television show "Euphoria" (3) Compiling a list of swear words from television shows (4) recognizing the many forms of swearwords (5) Recognizing the Function of curse words, (6) Draw conclusion.

IV. Result and Discussion

The data is divided into seven types of swearing words and four functions of swearing words. The types of swearing words are related to sex, Related Excrement, Related Animal, Related Personal Background, Related taboo or religion or oath, Related Mental Illness, and Related Racism. The five functions of swearing words are Cathartic Swearing, Abusive swearing, Emphatic swearing, Idiomatic swearing, and Dysphemistic Swearing. The swearing words used in the " Euphoria " television show will be studied. There are 100 data points in this study about the type and function of swearing words found in the television show "Euphoria."

4.1 Related to Excrement

Data 1

*"She quickly realized that there are two kinds of people in the world. She never had a desire to have a career or job, she just interesting in doing what she did, just without school and the others bull **shit**." (episode 5, season 1, minute 2:50)*

When the narrator (Rue POV) explains Madeleine's life in the past that has shaped her into who she is today. At the time, it was stated that when she was in primary school, she did not care about her academics. All she cared about was popularity for the confidence she possessed.

The narrator uses "shit" to convey her dissatisfaction with her academic life. In modern English, "shit" is considered vulgar and profane. It is a noun that refers to dirt. Shit can refer to nonsense, stupidity, something of little value or quality, trivial and usually arrogant or inaccurate nonsense, or a contemptible person. It can also be used to generalize other nouns or to express irritation, surprise, or anger. Swearing words "full of shit" spoken by the narrator (Rue POV) are included in the type of swearing words related to excrement because "shit" is a word that is usually only used in everyday situations and is not proper to utter in public.

One of the functions of swearing words, as shown above, is included in the cathartic swearing because the speakers say it is not intended for anyone, only to express their feelings which describes his misfortune

4.2 Related to Animal

Data 2

Madeliene: if you step any closer, I will fight you!
Police: miss, this is a procedure. I need you to remove your sweater now.
If you do not, we will remove it for you
*Madeliene: really, **bitch!** How! (In episode 5, season 1, minute 27:59)*

When police Madeliene was forced to remove her clothes to display her wounds in the interrogation room, she rebelled and spoke to one of the female police officers. Madeline's use of the term "bitch" refers to her displeasure with the police's treatment of her. It refers to a woman or girl who is belligerent, unreasonable, malicious, controlling, aggressive, or dominant.

Swearing words bitch spoken by Madielene was included in the type of swearing words Related to Animals because The term "bitch" is an abbreviation for "cowardly dog." As a result, it was initially depicted as a female dog. In Greek literature, a "persistent symbolic connection" developed between dogs and women, expressing and reinforcing

women's subordinate position in society and their allegedly inferior nature. One of the functions of swearing words, as shown above, is included in Abusive swearing because the speakers say it with anger, and it is directed at one person

4.3 Related to taboo or religion or oath

Data 3

Rue: are you doing this because you care about me?

If you care this shit about me, you do not want to sell me the fucking drugs in the first place!

But you did! You fucking did!

*So open the **God damn** door!*

Fez: I can't, Rue. I am sorry (episode 3, season 1, minute 54:09)

When Rue, the main character, has a craving for drugs again in, she hurries to the croupier's house, but the croupier locks the door. Rue yelled.

From the data above, the swear words found is god damn used to emphasize what you are saying, especially when you are angry or annoyed. Some people consider this word offensive. Swearing words god damn spoken by Rue are included in the type of swearing words related to taboo or religion or oath because the word is a nice word to pronounce, and it is immoral to associate it with an impolite word.

The function that it serves as the swear word, in this case, is emphatic swearing. Rue used the phrase "god damn" to express her frustration with Fez and emphasize her sentence, indicating she wanted to quickly open the door because she had been waiting for a long time. (Jay et al., 2008) It can be used in a different way, intensifying utterances, describing negative or positive things, and also expressing exciting feelings

4.4 Related to sex

Data 4

Fez: how are you feeling?

Rue: I mean, ever since I gave my life over to my lord and savior Jesus Christ, things have been, like, really good.

Fez: what? That is was suck

*Rue: - Yeah. I'm **fucking** with you. It was a joke.* (episode1, season 1, minute 09:45)

Rue came out of rehab and met Fez, and Rue made fun of Fez's curiosity and worry. The data presented above is a dialogue between Rue and Fez. The swear word found is fucking. It represents the type of swearing words because the term fuck is typically used to describe more explicit sexual intercourse. Its literal meaning is 'have sex'.

According to the data above, the word fuck is included in the idiomatic function of swearing words. Because that fuck sentence is used when you are happy, followed by "It was a joke," which indicates that you are in an informal situation.

Data 5

Ashtray: This is a fickle industry. Y'all come and go.

I am just trying to stack my cash, pay off our mortgage.

*So what the **fuck** do you want?* (episode 1, season 1, minute 10.16)

Rue came to ask for her drugs which she usually consumes before entering the rehabilitation center, and they talked there. In data 5, the swear word demonstrated is

also fuck. There is no difference, fuck is a type of swearing word related to sex which distinguishes it in function.

This time the word fuck is included in the function of Swear words as idiomatic swearing. This happens because the word fuck does not mean anything. It's just a habit for people to say swear words and orders without thinking about what they're saying.

Data 6

"She'd regularly fantasize about telling her followers how much she hated her school, her town, and how everyone in it was full of shit and a fucking asshole."

When the narrator (Rue's point of view) recounts Kat's background, she has succeeded in increasing her fans on social media, thanks to her success in writing work with a rating of 17+ named "the first night," but unlike on social media, Kat has no friends in the real world.

The word "Asshole" above is a type of swearing word related to sex because it refers to body parts that can be used for sexual activity. The term is mainly used as an abusive term to describe people who are considered stupid, incompetent, unpleasant, or detestable.

Because the word "asshole" above does not indicate to someone about his or her situation, the function of the swear word, in this case, is dysphemistic swearing. The sentence "asshole" can be used to describe a place or situation that is annoying and out of control. The speaker refers to that situation as an "asshole," and we know that the "asshole" is a dirty and disgusting place.

4.5 Related to mental illness

Data 7

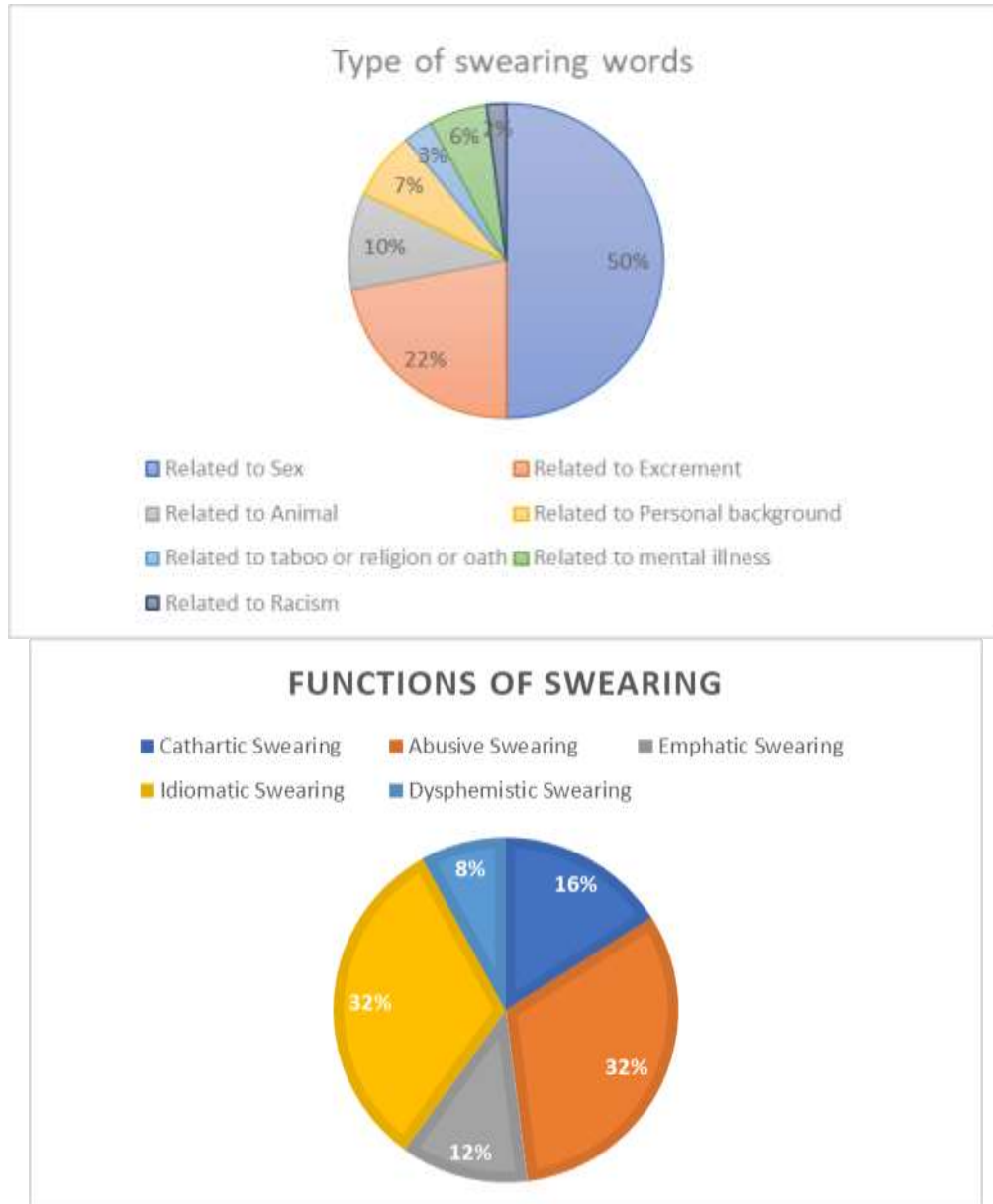
Nate Jacobs: I don't know. I don't give a fuck. She broke up with me. Fuck her. Chris Mc Kay: See, no, bro. Cause she's crazy. I don't want her to come and try to burn my house down. (episode 1, season 1, minute 12.29)

The psychology of someone suffering from mental or mental problems is described as crazy. The word crazy is frequently used to describe someone who does extraordinary things without considering the risks involved, such as when Chris Mc Kay and Jacobs were discussing, Chris Mc Kay's concerns about tonight's party being disrupted by Nate's crazy ex-girlfriend. This crazy word fits the dialogue "See, no, bro. Cause, she's crazy." Nate is free to act whichever she wants, including burning down the house.

The word "Crazy" above is a type of swearing word related to mental illness because it refers to someone who does extraordinary things without considering the risks involved.

The function of this sentence is abusive swearing because the word crazy is used to describe someone.

V. Conclusion



There are 100 data found in the “Euphoria” television series. There are types of swearing words are related to Sex (50data), 50% and then it serves five functions, types of swearing words related to Excrement (22data), 22% and then it serves five functions, types of swearing words related to Animal (10data), 10% and then it serves three functions types of swearing words related to Personal Background (7data), 7% and then it serves one functions, types of swearing words related to taboo or religion or oath (3data), 3% and then it serves one functions, types of swearing words related to Mental Illness (6data), 6% and then it serves two functions and types of swearing words related to Racism (2data), 2%. and then it serves two functions Additionally, there are five functions of swearing words that are represented by a type of swearing word in the “Euphoria” tv series. Cathartic Swearing 16%, abusive swearing 32%, emphatic swearing 12%, idiomatic swearing 32%, and Dysphemistic Swearing 6%. nowadays teenagers frequently use swear words in every speech, including when talking and laughing with their classmates and when they are

furious. As a result, this data is dominated by related to sex for types of swear words by 50 % and the same result in the function of swear words, namely abusive and idiomatic at 32%.

Moreover, from this analysis, swearing words are the result of several factors reflecting themselves and expressing emotions. Although swear words are considered unpleasant phrases, they have the capacity to arouse and give strength in order not to appear weak. Swear words are used in everyday conversation all around the world.

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