

Revealing Women and Men Language Features in “*Holidate*” Movie: An Analysis of Main Character

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ABSTRACT

This study aimed to investigate the differences in language used by men and women by referring to the use of language features in the theory proposed by Lakoff (1975) about the language features of women and Coates (2004) discussing the features of the male language. It also proved the inconsistency of each gender retains their language features. The data was obtained from dialogue from male and female main characters supported by other characters in the movie *Holidate*. The method used was descriptive qualitative supported by the statement of Mack et. al. (2005). It was also enhanced by several previous studies and books that also discussed research on similar topics. The technique used was the documentary technique because it related to subtitles in movies. The results of this study proved that not all language features were used and found that the main characters in this movie were inconsistent in certain situations because of several factors. The inconsistency happened when the women use the men's language feature and vice versa. These inconsistencies were influenced by plot, society, nature of the family, and by the difference of intended function in each feature that makes women and men use language features related to their goals in a conversation.

Keywords: *Language and gender, Women language features, Men language features, Social factors, Social dimensions, Holidate movie*

1. INTRODUCTION

A language is a communication tool that cannot be separated from humans because with it they can socialize with others. According to Holmes and Wardhaugh, there is social interaction within multilingual communities that varies depending on social factors such as sex, regional aspects, ethnic aspects, etc [1]. In the sociolinguistic study that studies the relationship between language and society where a person will use language to interact, convey what is on their mind to others and the influences of social factors such as who is talking with whom, what topics are being discussed, where they communicate, etc. According to Coates and Holmes in a multilingual community of language users, they will have different ways of speaking, especially if it leads to gender [2]. Moreover, linguists argue that there is a difference between men's and women's speaking styles and it is claimed that women use language more linguistically politely than men and both will certainly develop different speech functions. One example shown by Francin explains that sometimes women's language will speak more

detailed in terms of correct grammar and pronunciation and within their speech, they show their awareness to be more polite and respectful, while men are rougher, in case of using indecent language and more relaxed with use slang [3].

Several previous studies have completed their studies using language and gender as the main topics and used in different objects whether movies, novels, interviews, etc. Rahma Putri Ramadhani, Siti Hafsa, and Adi Prautomo state in their study that they found the differences between women and men language within Shopaholic movies if women are more polite and tend to be so emotional in a conversation. They also talk more tentative and evaluative compared with the man that talks more assertive. Several studies that have been further investigated show results that there is an inconsistency of the person in maintaining the use of their language feature [4]. Tri Puspa Juwita, Dyah Sunggingwati, Nita Maya Valiantien in their study explain briefly that the reason for the inconsistency is varying it can from the speaker's environment, intimacy, status, etc [5]. Different if

the object is the advertisement as in the study conducted by Van Bui give an example if women are attracted by specific features such as intonations, accents, voice, etc in the advertisement. The other things are from the product if men see the masculine things such as cars, motorcycles, household, etc different from women who are more attracted to the beauty product or fashion [6]. Dina postulate results that women and men's advertisements are have differences in the use of gender feature although the use is vice versa for women and men. This results might be related to the focus of this study that inconsistency of language feature used by some main characters. This research chooses the topic of language gender, aimed to reveal several research questions such as 1) What are the women and men language features used in the *Holidate* movie spoken by the main character? 2) How the social factors and social dimensions trigger the speech that contained language features to appear in the *Holidate* movie? 3) How consistent the women and men characters in the *Holidate* movie used the language feature?. The theories from Lakoff that explain women's language features and Coates that discuss men language features are used with consideration to the main male and female character speech as the data within *Holidate* movie as the object. The object has an interesting story wherein the female character named Sloane is forced by her family to find a partner and her accidental encounter with a man named Jackson, makes them create some agreement for being date partner only for holidays. The consistency of both main characters is also investigated whether they can maintain or changed their language features as it can give some facts to break the stereotypes against the society. Theory from Janet Holmes discusses social factors and social dimensions also used as additional knowledge connecting with the data to find out the relationship between them.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Social Factors and Social Dimensions

Janet Holmes cited in books called *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* the existence of sociolinguistic study is to examine more deeply the importance of language within a community that can reveal its social functions [7]. By studying how each person has a different way of presenting language in different social contexts will enrich the

information of how language can facilitate linkages in a community. Where each person has a different way to construct and deliver their language that also shows their social identity through language. In addition, Janet Holmes explains the influences of social factors that differ in each category can show different interests in the social context [7]. Some of the aspects in social factors such as the participants, social settings, social context, or the interaction function within the group itself.

As Holmes said besides social factors, there are social dimensions that also give influence the speaker's action while communicating in a social environment [7]. Moreover, the social dimension is focused on some aspects such as value, norms, rules, and roles and human behavior were the greatest influence that determines the scale of social dimensions aspect. Humans are a social being who needs another individual to interact with so each individual must develop all the tools inherent in their social dimension as to adaptation within the community. And they need to strive to enhance their material and symbolic needs in a group. In total there are 4 different categories in social dimensions, such as social distance scale, status scale, formality scale, and two functional scales that each of them has a concern in different things [7]. Here are 4 categories of social dimensions:

a) **Social distance scale** which concerns participant's relationship relevant with the linguistic choice of individual whether the participant has the intimacy or distance also have high or low solidarity with other participants. For example: when you ask for help from your friend and a stranger there will be identified differences. Like when it comes to your friend, you will ask only with "*help me, please*" because there is an intimacy between them but when with a stranger because there is a distance between them it will be "*would you mind helping me?*"

b) **Status scale** that also concerns with participant's relationship whether the participant is superior or subordinate status also have high or low status towards other participants. For instance: the communication between lecture and student. Lecture: *Can you borrow me an LCD in the administration office, now?* Student: *Yes, ma'am.*

Wait a minute. The status of the lecture is more high and superior than the student so the student must answer it in a formal way to show the student high formality of respect the status of the lecture. And the student use "*ma'am*" instead of using the lecture name.

c) **Formality scale** which concerns the types of interaction made by participants whether formal or informal also have high or low formality consider with language choice within the interaction.

d) **Two functional scales** which concern the function of language whether in referential scale (informational given in discourse) it gives high or low information content, for example, to give directions or facts about something meanwhile in affective scale (emotion or how the speaker feels about the topic) it gives low or high affective content.

2.2 Men's Language Features

Differences in language features are closely related to the influence of aspects of cultural traits and human behavior. Wherefrom the selection of language features used by women and men, it will look different because this aspect will later lead to the determination of social roles. Terms of social roles are supported by the statement of Holmes which claims that women's language is more acceptable in society because they often use standard forms, especially when talking with children to provide examples of correct language [3]. As stated by Eckert, it was found that there were biological differences between men and women. For example, because men have high testosterone levels, this is what causes men to be more aggressive. The left brain of men is also considered more rational than women's [3]. Even though men and women interact with each other, they will certainly show different linguistic behavior.

Coates is the expert who states his hypothesis that discussed men's language features that are often shown in conversation [3]. His theory construct if men's language has different types of language features. Coates said that men have some characteristics given in society, he states some

characteristics are minimal response, hedges, question, tag question, swearing and taboo language, command and directives, and compliment [8]. 1) **Minimal response** is a kind of monosyllabic utterance with only give feedback like "*huh*", "*hmm*", "*yeah*". 2) **Command and directives** as men who tend to be explicit when utter speech that is likely to command their partner speech to do something directly as to show if a man is claimed to have high prestige rather than women. For example: "*Gimme a cup of tea. Don't forget to make it less sugar*". 3) **Swearing** a woman can use this kind of language features but in several previous research that also conducts with use this topic, it shows that men with men while communicating is substantially use swearing language more than women with women. For example like *shit*, *damn*, *fuck*, etc. 4) **Compliments**, previous research shows if men are likely to give compliments to their speech partners depends on the skill or possession partners like "*You did a great job*" or "*You're so cool*", etc. 5) **Theme**, in the same-sex like men and men in a conversation they have a theme in their conversation either sports, travel, current affairs, etc it aims to gain some new information different with women that while in the same-sex conversation they tend to use tag-question or question [5].

2.3 Women's Language Features

Lakoff (2003 cited in Holmes) stated his hypothesis about women's language features that there are 10 different types are characterized by women's speech given in society, such as 1) **Lexical hedges or fillers**, a hedge is a word or phrase contained in a sentence that aims to start or take a turn to talk in a conversation and is classified as meaningless particles that give a pause [3]. Lakoff states the purpose of this feature for women to think about what they want or express their ambiguity, uncertainty, or indecision about their statement [5]. Because they feel a lack of confidence or lack authority about the rest sentences within her statement. So, they did not utter their speech that provides more accuracy, certainty, or firmness. Such as *may*, *seems*, *probably*, *hmm*, *kinda*, *well*, *you know*, *ahh*, etc is included as hedges.

2) **Tag question**, Lakoff, (p.15) explain this feature is declarative statements from the speaker as to claim something but make it into the form of interrogative or imperative sentences that require a yes or no answer because the speaker is not confident enough about the truthness of her statement so they make the statement in the form of a question to get confirmation from the speaking partner so that the statement is more absolute [4]. Lakoff states that with yes or no question is claimed to be less assertive as the aims to show politeness through a question that contains implicit expressions or start a conversation. For example: "*She's so pretty, isn't she?*" or "*Currently the weather is rainy, isn't it?*". Tag questions are also the speaker's belief of her claim to have the correct answer before she asks interlocutor and its not always a confirmation but it can ask for opinions from the interlocutor, for example: "*The war in Palestine is so horrible, isn't it?*" or "*My stomach is hurt I think because I eat too much, don't I?*" [4]. This feature can be used by men because there are no syntactic rules that state that only women can use this pattern.

3) **Rising intonation**, Bi gives a statement when women talk they tend to like to rising the intonation and speed of their speech. Women tend to answer interrogative and even declarative sentences by increasing their intonation or volume [5]. Besides that, the use of rising intonation can be for women to try to get the interlocutor's attention. Lakoff claims that when women raise their intonation to show that they feel hesitant while giving statements [3]. For example:

a. *When will we go shopping?*

b. *Oh...I guess on Sunday?*

From the example above it is show that statement (b) is the speaker state hesitantly (if that's ok with the partner if they go on Sunday) towards sentence (a) question. The hesitant statement reflects that women sometimes don't trust the information from the statements said by their partners and difficulty making decisions immediately or still unsure.

4) **Empty adjective**, Lakoff and Bi explained that this language feature is used to express feelings

about particular situations that occur around them [5]. Women's vocabulary such as *funny, beautiful, terrible, adorable, charming, etc* is more often used by women than men because women didn't mind a matter of vocabulary choices [4]. Men can use this language feature but it will slightly damage other people's views of a man's reputation. For example, when a woman sees her friend used a new ring, she will act like saying "*How lovely is that ring!*". Women will found in the word of *lovely* is amusing for her to describe or admire the ring instead of using cool or any other neutral words.

5) **Precise color terms**, Bi proposed this is one of the features of language that specifically well-identified by a female [5]. Bi explains if women are claimed to be more detailed in naming a color [5]. Such as *magenta, lilac, rose, mauve, etc* because they are very sensitive to sees the color differences. In contrast to men who do not pay attention to it. Women are said to be shown a choice of lexical items to make discriminate in color naming. For example, there is a couple, the girl asks her boyfriend to choose which clothes are better for her to buy while shopping. Her boyfriend will say "*This purple one suits you*" but the girl will say "*It's not purple but lilac*". Her boyfriend might not give any comment or impression of her statement because in society discrimination in color naming can be accepted by women but does not apply to men. Because men are "unworldly", they do not concern about this thing that exists in life as a high culture that needs to considerate and they thought if it is not important matters as we need to take our decision.

6) **Emphatic stress**, women tend to emphasize the words within a sentence to reinforce the meaning in the sentence. For example: "*That movie was so EPIC*". Based on Lakoff's statement explain that emphatic stress includes boosting devices [1]. This example aimed to clarify something with capitalized words because women force themselves to highlight the words. According to Bi and Lakoff state that women emphasize their speech to make what they say to get attention and be heard by their interlocutors [5]. This language feature is gonna strengthen the speaker's intended meaning as women want to reassure the message to the

interlocutor and claim that it shows the woman is lacking confidence when they use this pattern. In written text, emphatic stress will be found out in a word either capitalized, italic, bold, or any sign that aims to emphasize the words.

7) Super polite forms, this language feature is more dominantly used by women rather than men. They used this feature to construct their speech to be more polite hear by the interlocutor. According to Lakoff (1973:53 cited in Holmes), super polite forms are indirect requests and euphemisms because while women ask to do a favor, they suggesting the speech partner do something in their imperative sentence without making the speech partner feel hurt for what they asked for [1]. Bi states if women infrequently use the non-standard multi-negative form while asking a favor and more often use hypercorrect grammar structure [5]. For example, instead of saying "*Bring me that book!*" Women tend to change their sentences for the interlocutor in a polite way like "*Would you bring me that book please?*".

8) Intensifier, according to Hornby intensifiers are included in boosting devices that are more often used by women because of a lack of power. This language feature will indicate that women want to reinforce the intended meaning and ensure that the message is conveyed to the interlocutor [1]. For example: "*I feel so sick!*" or "*That place is so terrible!*", this example leads to a woman who likes to make stronger another meaning in the sentences they said. The use of *so, totally, awful, very, such, quite, fairly, rather, extremely, incredibly, pretty, somewhat, etc* are included in intensifiers. According to Lakoff men find it difficult to use this language feature because without non-subjective feelings referring to the speaker himself, although men definitely can use a pattern like this [3].

9) Avoidance of strong swear words, Lakoff explains that women tend to avoid strong words it is to show how strong their feelings towards something [1]. For instance in phrases such as *fudge, my goodness, oh my, oh sugar, or shoot* is usually often comes from women's mouths when they feel surprised by something and it is like they avoid using any swear words. The examples like in these sentences: "*Oh my god, I forgot to bring my*

wallet!" or "*Shoot, my cellphone got hit by water!*". Lakoff (1975 cited in Labotka 2009) explains any other example that is meant to be strong words or expletive such as *shit, damn, hell, fuck, etc* [3]. He thought as women rather than say these kinds of swear words it is more appropriate for women to change it into my god or oh my goodness. Society treats women as not appropriate for them to show their emotion or angriness with throwing tantrums because our social expectation is a woman is expected to have docility and resignation.

10) Hypercorrect grammar, according to Holmes this feature language is used in standard verb forms by women to avoid using rough language because women indicate to show politeness either attitude or their speech [1]. Women use this kind of language features to their identity as an educated people in society. The speaker indicated used hypercorrect grammar while using the form of comparison degree and parallel structure in their sentence. For example "*This skirt would make my fashion more expensive*" shows a degree of information in terms of more within sentence. Another example "*Cynthia has brushed her hair, packed her clothes, and caught the school bus.*" The parallel structure can be identified through a sentence contain series of words, phrases, or clauses that display the same grammatical form as the example above it shows if the first verb is in past tense form so all following verbs will in past tense form. With language, it can be seen whether the speaker is speaking softly, gently, or roughly. Lakoff instead of saying *givin, tellin, or goin* like men usually do, women are used standard form of English and they used it in terms of like pronunciation, word form, or grammatical construction which is coming up by mistaken analogy [1]. For example, "*My boyfriend giving me a chocolate ball*".

3. RESEARCH METHOD

In this research, the qualitative method was used for analyzing the differences in language features between men and women within the *Holidate* movie. According to Mack et. al., qualitative research was suitable for obtaining information about intangible factors [5]. Mack et. Al explained

kinds of intangible factors such as values, gender roles, behaviors, and social contexts, social norms, socioeconomic status, ethnicity of particular populations [5]. The subject of this research was *Holidate* movie through the conversation conducted by female and male that was the main character which was supported the aim of this research which showed the differences language features used either men or women. This research used theories from Lakoff to analyzed women's language features and Coates analyzed men's language features. This research also used the theory from Holmes to show the relations between these features and social factors also social dimensions by using *Holidate* movie as the object that was published in 2020. These theories were chosen because both theories are renowned among researcher and the concept also the explanation is comprehensible.

Several previous studies such as journals article or books were investigated using a similar topic that is the differences between women and men language features are used to help enrich information for this research. The topic was interesting to further investigated because Lakoff, Haas, and Robertson said if men and women are having a different characteristic in some ways and a variety of influences of their uttered specific features [9]. According to Bogdan and Biklen stated that data was researcher collected as the basis of data to be discussed in form of rough materials [5]. This research had some steps to collect the data, first is to watch the *Holidate* movie. Secondly, a documentary technique from the movie subtitle was used to collect these conversations utter by male and female that was the main character in this movie, and then classified them in each category based on theories that proposed women and men language features. With using descriptive method, the data that hds been collected was going to be analyzed. And lastly, it was checked whether the main characters was consistent or not using their language features.

4. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

4.1 Men's Language Features

4.1.1 Minimal response

Data 1 (1.17.46)

Neil: She didn't even want to snuggle?

Jackson: **Uh-uh**

Data 2 (1.23.37)

Sloane: What is that supposed to mean? You think I'm being an asshole?

Jackson: **Yeah**

Discussion:

For data 1, it is known in the scene above that Jackson only briefly responded to his close friend Neil's question. This scene above tells if previously Jackson and Sloane have had sex but they are just holidate partners where they will pretend to be a couple at certain events such as New Year, Valentine's, Easter's, etc. Rosalind gill said in her study women sometimes leave men in a phase where they feel left alone to feel confused or ashamed [10]. After they have sex, Sloane tries to drive Jackson away and does not want to remember what happened where it upsets Jackson because he knows that they have started to have feelings for each other. Jackson gave a short response to Neil because he was disappointed and angry towards Sloane. Neil and Jackson are close friends, they have the intimacy as close friends. Neil already knows the story about the two of them because Jackson entrusted Neil and used to tell Neil all his problems because of the things like intimacy or it does not matter for them to have an informal conversation as it is already explained in the social dimension precisely in social distance scale [7].

For data 2, previously shows that Sloane and Jackson are having a debate because Jackson says that Sloane does not have to pretend to show her feeling toward him because they had sex already. Sloane keeps denying and pretend that forget what was happened. Sloane said that Jackson never likes him. At their first meet, Jackson said that he did not find that Sloane was an attractive girl because Jackson tries to convince Sloane so she will agree to do holidate and accompany him at certain events without worries they will fell in love. But after they had sex together both are getting more intense

toward each other. Jackson said why he says that Sloane was not an attractive girl because it would be very strange, rude, and even it can cause misunderstanding so it means he limits to provide the information toward his mind or show low referential scale because at that time they did not know each other and their status was still a stranger to each other [7]. Holmes, Tannen, and Tannen said that different expectations in each gender can cause many types of miscommunication [11]. The minimal response Jackson gives shows that he is fed up with Sloane's cowardly behavior because she is always tried stubbornly if she has not kept any feelings for Jackson since the incident.

4.1.2 Command and directives

Data 1 (11.21)

Sloane: I spent months learning to throw my voice.

Jackson: **Well, come on. Let's hear it!**

Sloane: No

Jackson: Excuse me, *I bought you a free pretzel. So, you owe me an Urkel. Come on. Come on*

Data 2 (14.01)

Jackson: I'm Jackson, by the way

Sloane: Sloane

Jackson: Nice to meet you, Sloane. Here are my details (Giving his ID card).

Sloane: Golf pro? What's your real job?

Jackson: **Just think about it and text me.**

Discussion:

In data 1, Jacobs-Huey state that men tend to be dominant one of the reason because men presumed to be coercive [12]. Jackson wanted to see Sloane imitate Urkel's speaking style and force him by saying that he had bought her a pretzel so Sloane owed him. Jackson forced Sloane by telling her to do it in front of him before that Sloane said she had been practicing the sound for a few months so he was curious to hear it. This was their first meeting even though they did not know each other closely,

they seemed to show comfort in each other by making jokes and at that time they were talking about their best Christmas it shows that they having the same interest or high solidarity in the topic. It gave rise to the high affective content also high solidarity and showing probability for them to continue the conversation so it will gain the intimacy between of them [7].

For data 2, previously told that Jackson invited Sloane to do holiday because of her aunt's suggestion and then Jackson was interested in trying. It means they have high affective that also influence high solidarity towards each other [7]. Jackson gave Sloane a choice and chance to think while giving his ID card so whenever Sloane changed her mind she could immediately call him through the phone number written on his card. Whitehead, argued men's desire is thus not always lead to sexual desire because fulfilling desire is also a part of self-developing and performs the masculinity towards social gaze [12]. Jackson told Sloane to directly give him a message if she changed her mind because she would wait for her to do that anytime.

4.1.3 Swearing

Data 1 (38.31)

Jackson: I know plenty of blokes who've had their hearts crushed by some chick who pretended to care about him...And then one day, without warning, the bathroom cleared out and she's changed her phone number, and she snuck out of my place with a Panini maker. **A fucking Panini maker.**

Data 2 (1.21.49)

Sloane: Chip?

Jackson: **You know I don't eat that shit.**

Discussion:

In data 1, Jackson tells about his experience because it is known that Jackson has been faced the struggle of his relationship with several women. Gray, claims if men tend to confront each other more directly [13]. Jackson says that women can be very brutal and annoying as he already experienced it. He used swearing to expressed his annoyance

because his panini maker is an expensive item but must be stolen because it was taken by his ex. This is their third meeting on Easter's day as a holiday partner after New Year's and Valentine's Day where their relationship is getting closer and has built more strong intimacy. Because he has given his trust to Sloane it means he shows a high referential scale by comfortably tells his personal experiences related to his relationship with women in the past [7].

In data 2, Jackson's use of swearing words shows that he was upset with Sloane because this scene happened after the incident they had sex but when they finally met again Sloane acted as nothing happened between the two of them. Holmes states if men consider being more less polite without paying attention to the interlocutor's face regarding studies of gender and politeness [11]. Jackson wanted to stop Sloane's chit-chat because the more she tried to talk about other things the atmosphere between them is more awkward. Jackson tried to provoke him to better discuss the incident that happened earlier. Because they have intimacy, Jackson needs to clear out the situation so it would no ruin their intimacy but Sloane was showing low solidarity as she always tries to avoid discussing the topic [7].

4.1.4 Compliments

Data 1 (17.03)

Jackson: **By the way, your tits look exceptional in that dress.**

Sloane: Thanks. That's why I bought it.

Jackson: **Love the way it hugs your ass, too.**

Sloane: That's really sweet of you to notice.

Data 2 (43.52)

Jackson: We're friend.

Elaine: She doesn't need another friend. She needs a husband. A partner. Someone legally bound to be there during the chemo.

Sloane: What chemo?

Elaine: Oh, honey. Don't kid yourself. You have bad genes. And bald women don't really get a lot of dates.

Jackson: **You have nothing to worry about. Sloane is a great girl.**

Discussion:

In data 1, Fausto-Sterling states that men's left-brain is dominated men's speech to be more rational [13]. Jackson praised Sloane's appearance as they partied together and this was their first time as holiday partners. Sloane is used to wearing casual clothes if traveling or wearing like a pajama even during special events such as Christmas day but this time she wears a dress and makeup so it makes Jackson who first saw her astonished by her massively makeover change. This is the second meeting of them so it cannot be said yet that they have a very close relationship but the complement given by Jackson could be one of their efforts to build intimacy between them [7]. Holmes claims that compliments are included as positive politeness devices [11].

In data 2, Jackson tries to help Sloane in dealing with her chatty mother about her daughter's love life. Jackson's shown his attitude defending Sloane because he does know more about Sloane's romance life than Sloane's mother itself. They show intimacy and high solidarity because Sloane has entrusted Jackson as a place where she can talk about her thoughts about love even her family. Sampath is found that the identities of a male are more aware of the conflicting values of respectability and reputation [12]. Jackson shows his politeness to Elaine without having to hurt Elaine's feelings or denial her statement because she has more high status as Sloane's mother who has the power to oversee the life of her biological daughter [7].

4.1.5 Theme

Data 1: 15:58

Jackson: Know the problem is with girls?

Neil: They got crazy eyes, right?

Data 2: 1.18.01

Neil: Me and Abby had a real connection, and she hasn't even called.

Jackson: Do you know what the last thing she said to me was? "See you at Thanksgiving"

Discussion:

In data 1, they both are close friends and have strong intimacy also high solidarity which they comfortable and having the same interest in the topic being discussed [7]. They both are talking about women because as well the plot in the story tells if they are looking for a girl to date. Nixon deploy a sexual images and assumed men terms as their interests towards a thing such as football, women or beer [10]. Whenever the scene was performed both of them, always talked about women and women are the theme in the conversation to gain new information. Either Jackson telling his thought about Sloane to Neil or Neil somehow telling how struggling when he tries to find a girl that matches his ideal type.

In data 2, along with plot within the movie that determines their status between Jackson and Neil as a close friend. They have strong intimacy towards each other proved by how they are always talking about the same thing which is about women as the theme of their conversation to gain new information about each other relationship with their referred women [5]. And both are showing high solidarity also high referential scale because they have the same interest and provide the fact of their personal information with a girl that lately close with them [7]. For Neil, lately, he met Abby at Halloween's party and he has strong intention towards Abby. And Jackson itself, struggling with his relationship with Sloane.

4.2 Women's Language Features

4.2.1 Lexical hedges or fillers

Data 1 (32.11)

Sloane: Believe it or not, this isn't the worst Valentine's Day of my life.

Jackson: Why you didn't just call me?

Sloane: *I don't know. I guess I was just embarrassed to admit that nothing had changed since New Year's.*

Data 2 (1.19.50)

Sloane: You didn't invite Faarooq?

Aunt Susan: Oh, that? No, no. You know me. One holiday per customer.

Sloane: **But you guys seemed so happy together.**

Discussion:

For data 1, Sloane and Jackson chatted in the car, Jackson was confused as to why she did not call him to celebrate Valentine's Day because they had previously agreed to be holiday partners it means in every particular event they would casually hang out together to celebrate the event like a couple even though it was just pretending. Sloane said it was strange because they had gone together to a New Year's party but there was still no change in case of their relationship status. Dede Brouwer, Marinel Gerritsen, and Dorian de Haan in their study said that women hesitate while giving their speech more frequently rather than men [11]. Sloane is a bit hesitant because previously Sloane did not know the way of work and the rules in holiday that she and Jackson did. Sloane thought if she called Jackson it would be weird and embarrass her to call him. She felt there had not been a strong intention or had not improved anything from their relationship since their first meeting. It can be concluded that Sloane has not felt any intimacy or closeness between him and Jackson especially if it should lead to a relationship [7].

Faarooq is a man who was once the holiday partner of aunt Susan's, but Sloane was a little surprised to see aunt Susan's not invited him to have a dinner party together. Sloane feels that although her aunt likes to change her partners, she feels a strong vibe between Faarooq and her aunt so, she states that they both look very happy together. Holmes had identified some of the language features proposed for women are served many functions for example tag questions either for express uncertainty (epistemic modality), or used for politeness purposes [11]. The way she states her

statement show low accuracy and uncertainty because it was only her opinion. And, there is a probability if aunt Susan was not feeling the same thing as Sloane's statement. Sloane's statement indicates that she has a strong intimacy with her aunt more because she can see the difference when her aunt shows her affection towards Faarooq and her aunt's other partners [7].

4.2.2 Tag questions

Data 1 (1.22.17)

Sloane: **You're not even that attracted to me, right?**

Jackson: Why can't you let that go?

Sloane: Because when a guy basically opens with the fact he doesn't find a girl attractive, it kinda sets tone for the rest of the relationship.

Discussion:

In data 1, this research only found 1 piece of evidence for this feature utter by the female character. Lakoff was found several linguistic features often used by women and these functions are to expressed uncertainty or showing women's lack of confidence [11]. Sloane's question indicates the tag-question category because she wants to get confirmation from Jackson to emphasize her speech. When they met for the first time, he says that she is not the girl that attractive in her eyes. The first time they have met, they did not have intimacy nor yet know each other and it affected how Jackson viewed Sloane [7]. If Jackson praised Sloane at that time maybe she would have seen him as a strange and horrible person.

4.2.3 Rising intonation

Data 1 (1.26.36)

Sloane: **Stop it! He's not choking! He's having a heart attack. Somebody calls 911.**

Discussion:

For data 1, this research only found 1 piece of evidence for this feature utter by the female character. Wally's is the partner holiday of aunt Susan's suddenly suffered a sudden heart attack

while Sloane's family was celebrating Thanksgiving together. And it freaked all of them out. Horii, Kindaichi, and Kitagawa explain if women are more feminine with speak in a soft and calm tone compared with men that want to show masculinity with utter their speech more assertive and rough [14]. Meanwhile, in this movie, it shows the opposite situation when everyone thought he was choking but there Sloane raised the volume of her speech to tell if that Wally was not choking but had a sudden heart attack. Within society Holmes states in general the attitudes towards language are reflected in the power of different sexes [11]. She wanted everyone to hear it and people around Sloane would think she was being serious because she rise her intonation that she rarely does. Rising the intonation of Sloane's speech is also a sign if she wants to get feedback from people around her to do what she says.

4.2.4 Empty adjective

Data 1 (10.48)

Sloane: You don't want any?

Jackson: I don't eat that crap. Do you know what that does that to your body?

Sloane: **Yeah, it fills me with warm delicious happiness.**

Data 2 (52.20)

Sloane: I didn't know you worked all the way out here.

Faarooq: I don't, normally. They called me to reattach a pinkie toe.

Sloane: That's so amazing.

Faarooq: It's a crucial phalange.

Sloane: Stop (laughing). **Wow, you're doing such an amazing work.**

Discussion:

In data 1, Sloane uses these adjectives to describe her feelings when she eats the pretzel. She described the taste of delicious refers to the taste of the pretzels as making her happy and warm when

eating it because she ate it on Christmas Day and she can get that food for free. The speech from Sloane shows specific information from her describing her feelings while eating a pretzel. Within a book called "Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus" there is a statement said that women talking is a view as connected with others as the way to be emotionally [13]. Sloane makes a joke because she does not know at first if Jackson was a professional golfer so he was forbidden to eat unhealthy foods such as pretzels. It indicates if Sloane was interested in Jackson's question so she responded with make some jokes and this means that Sloane has high affective content and high solidarity with Jackson [7].

In data 2, Sloane uses the adjective "*amazing*" to describe her feelings of astonishment and surprise after hearing Faarooq's statement saying that she was in the hospital at the time to handle a toe surgery. And now he's going to handle Jackson's middle finger surgery which makes Sloane think that it was quite funny but she is also impressed by it. Fausto-Sterling is considered with scientific knowledge and state if women relative lack brain lateralization that makes women are more "emotional" rather than men [13]. Both are very enjoyable and interested towards topic being discussed so it can be concluded they have high affective to content and high solidarity to each other. Whereas because they had met several times and had built their intimacy. Also, Faarooq is provided specific information about his presence at that time in the hospital so that it showed high referential from Faarooq himself [7].

4.2.5 Precise color terms

No data found from the female main characters' speech indicating the *precise color terms* category. In the movie, this research only found the male main character's speech that indicated in this category as he utters *khakis* and *white satin*. But there is a social factor in the mention of *khakis* by the male main character influenced by his ex-girlfriend who has previously introduced the term and makes him remember the term of *khakis*. An investigation within a small community Frank & Anshen concluded women discriminate against color more subtly than men [11]. And in the movie, Jackson has previously had relationships with many

women of varying nature so the possibility of mentioning *white satin* is possible influenced by his ex-girlfriends who introduced him to the term. And by the time Jackson mentioned both terms, Sloane immediately understood both terms refer to what color. According to Bartlett, color discrimination is more common in women [11].

4.2.6 Emphatic stress

Data 1 (01.57)

York: You know it's a holiday when my sister shows up alone.

Liz: Don't rub it in. She's obviously sad.

Sloane: **Stop it. I'm not sad.**

Data 2 (46.15)

Liz: We're going to Peter's family reunion. Let's be respectful.

Sloane: Liz, these are your last days as a single woman. You need to **loosen up**.

Discussion:

For data 1, Liz sees that perhaps Sloane is sad because she is the only one who has not had a partner yet in the family. However, Sloane emphasizes the word sad because she wants to show that she does not feel sad or envious at all. Lakoff women used emphatic stress as intensifying device is to persuade the interlocutor or boost the force on women's speech to get the interlocutor's attention [3]. Sloane strengthening the meaning of her sentence and emphasize the word sad in her sentence which is meant as she described her feelings at that time. Sloane herself shows low affective content and low solidarity even though they already have the intimacy and it shows from her attitude where she does not seem interested in the topic [7]. She does not want their brought up her personal life and claims her expression as sadness.

For data 2, Lakoff explains emphatic stress is included in a kind of boosting or intensifier devices that lead women to the image of a force [3]. In the scene, Liz sees Wally smoking weed when they are going to Peter's house for a reunion, Liz thinks it is

an inappropriate thing to do. Also, she is the fiancée of Sloane's brother, York so they have had close distance or intimacy because they knew her for years [7]. Sloane said that she did not have to be stiff and force to try smoking weed. Sloane says after she got married it would be very difficult to act as freely as it is now so she emphasizes the word "*loosen up*" to told her not to be too strict about the rules.

4.2.7 *Super polite forms*

No data found from the female main characters' speech indicating the *super polite forms* category. For this category, there are factors of family nature that makeup Sloane accustomed speak casually and informally. Kiesling's study explains the perspective of this difference is seen as a difference in the 'culture' inhabited when they were young [12]. Sloane herself in the plot of the movie characterizes as an indifferent woman in building relationships with others even with members of her family. Where there is no desire to socialize it will be difficult to investigate the speech. Because the speech will be more variants accompanied by the development of the social dimension of its speakers against the interlocutor [7].

4.2.8 *Intensifier*

Data 1 (1.24.46)

Jackson: You know what? I bet you money, that if Ryan Gosling waltzed down this frozen food aisle, and offered to take you on the ride of your life, you would still say no. Cause you'd be too afraid to get on that train. The Ryan Gosling train.

Sloane: **You are so wrong!** Ryan Gosling would never do his own shopping! He's way too cool for that.

Data 2 (1.33.53)

Sloane: **I miss you so much. I miss you so much that I totally quit smoking.** And candy is only mildly comforting.

Discussion:

In data 1, Sloane's remarks indicate intensifier because she immediately denied and made a firm

and asserting her statement by saying "*you are so wrong*" where the chant "*so*" that is to reinforces the meaning of her sentence. Sloane insists that Jackson's statement is wrong, Sloane is trying to defend herself and she does not want to look weak so she adds intensify to her words so that her statement is convincing Jackson that she is not what Jackson talking about. Bradac and Mulac claim the stereotype about those who used hedges or intensifiers is regarded as to be less competent and credible [11]. Jackson's statement indicates that he showed high affective content and on the topic because he was trying to provide some information or facts (high referential scale) that Sloane herself did not realize about her attitude. Meanwhile, Sloane tried to avoid showing low affective content and low solidarity where she was not interested in discussing more deeply the topic [7].

In data 2, Sloane's remarks indicate intensifier to enhance the meaning to be more emotional. According to Arliss, intensifiers tend to be used by women to express emotions and indicate that the sentence is aimed at the interlocutor take their statements seriously [1]. She asserts her statement by giving some additional words like "*totally*" and "*so*" that aim is to modify and reinforces the adverbs within her sentence if she really misses Jackson and she completely stops smoking. She wants Jackson to take her statement seriously. Sloane finally dares to express her feelings because she feels the strong intimacy they have built in the past from their memories they make. Sloane also showed a high referential scale because she stated the facts regarding her feelings towards Jackson that Jackson had not yet known [7].

4.2.9 *Avoiding strong swear words*

Data 1 (11.49)

Scruffy Santa: Hey, Sloane.

Sloane: **Oh, God! Oh, God!**

Jackson: Is that an ex-boyfriend of yours or something?

Sloane: No! That is the guy my aunt brought home for Christmas.

Data 2 (1.08.41)

Sloane: They hardly even know each other, and they're already procreating.

Jackson: It's a mess. Let's go. Come one

Sloane: **Oh my God.** This is so embarrassing.

Discussion:

In data 1, Scruffy Santa is the holiday partner of her aunt who used to be Santa in the mall that Sloane and Jackson often visited. She was very surprised when the man noticed herself while walking in the mall. Sloane herself was shocked but she tried to avoid using strong words and replaced them with *oh god* to express her shock when the man called her. Lakoff (1975 cited in Labotka 2009) said if women are not expected to use strong expletives because society defined women as the correct creature [3]. Sloane's relationship with Santa did not have intimacy or intensity because they only met once and never chatted before that makes her avoid meeting him [7].

For data 2, Lakoff states if women are not appropriate to speak roughly because from an early age they tend to show their language in a polite way [3]. Sloane avoids using swearing words and replaces them with *oh my god* to describe her shame while at the party she had to cross paths with Luc and saw that Luc's girlfriend, Felicity was pregnant. She was so shocked and taking the pills given by her older sister, Abby that she initially thought it was a sedative but a laxative, where at that time in the party she had to endure her stomach pains. She was more embarrassed because she had to be seen by her ex-boyfriend, Luc wearing Halloween costumes that she thinks look like the whore costumes. Jackson helps Sloane to go home because he feels Sloane is safer with him. Jackson knows more about Sloane's problems with Luc and they have strong intimacy which makes Sloane is comfort around Jackson [7].

4.2.10 Hypercorrect grammar

Data 1 (1.33.13)

Sloane: Look, what I'm trying to say... is **I've had more fun with you in the last year than I've had with my loser ex-boyfriends combined.**

Discussion:

In data 1, this research only found 1 piece of evidence for this feature utter by the female character. Bi stated woman's speech are usually followed grammar structures [5]. Douglas and Morris claim if women are shown to use a variety of prestige speech more frequently [13]. Sloane's utterance is indicated as hypercorrect grammar in terms of degree comparison which is the use of *more* in the adjective *fun* means that Sloane was happier and having fun in the last year with Jackson rather than when she spent her time with all of her ex-boyfriends. The addition of *more* is provided specific information about Sloane's feelings. It means that Sloane was showing a high referential scale because she stating facts about her feeling or emotion towards Jackson [7]. She wants Jackson to take seriously her statement because in this scene Sloane was doing a confession to Jackson.

4.3 The Consistency of Male and Female Main Character use their Language Features

4.3.1 Tag question

Data 1 (32.18)

Sloane: Believe it or not, this isn't the worst Valentine's Day of my life.

Jackson: Why you didn't just call me?

Sloane: I don't know. I guess I was just embarrassed to admit that nothing had changed since New Year's.

Jackson: ***Isn't that the point of this holiday thing that we got to avoid this stupid pressure and all the judgment?***

4.3.2 Swearing

Data 2 (48.14)

Sloane: You can say it, Liz!

Liz: I don't need to say it.

Sloane: I think you do.

Abby: Just leave her alone

Sloane: No! She's getting married soon. She needs to learn to express herself and not be so bunched up and repressed. **Fucking**. Come on say it! **Fuck, fuck, fuck**.

Liz: No.

Discussion:

In data 1, The question asked by Jackson is indicated as a tag question where he aims to get confirmation from Sloane regarding the agreement of doing holiday as to fulfill their personal needs. In Ni Putu Kartina's study, it was explained that spoken tag questions have many functions such as not forcing the interlocutor to follow the speaker's statement or asking for opinions but conveyed politely and avoids assertion to avoid conflict [2]. Tag question from Jackson is his personal opinion but delivered in a question form as to changed it to be more polite and get the absolute answer to avoid asserting personal thought. And for Sloane uncertainty is indicated as low intensity even though they have made a deal to be a partner of the holiday. Sloane did not feel a strong intimacy because she was still in doubt to contacted Jackson [7].

In data 2, Previously they were celebrating a reunion party at Peter's house then the women were gathering together to relax. And the men were playing fireworks together. Sloane and Liz began discussing the topic of what is the relationship between men and fireworks. Aunt Susan declared the fireworks explosion was like a jacking off feeling for men while they were fucking or dreaming about fucking. Lakoff states that women can also use strong expletives because they want to show their feelings that were so strong about something [1]. Sloane wanted her not to have too much restraint or pressure on herself to say the word because it is a normal thing of saying the swearing word to express our emotions. From there Liz shows low solidarity and low affective content because she is not comfortable discussing this topic.

And Sloane's statement was shown on a high referential scale in which she told facts about Liz's attitude [7].

5. CONCLUSION

This paper proves that the theory proposed by Lakoff and Coates is found in the object of the *Holidate* movie. For the male main characters, the five categories are found within the object. Meanwhile, the main female characters only use eight of the ten existing categories such as lexical hedges or fillers, tag questions, rising intonation, empty adjectives, emphatic stress, intensifier, avoiding using strong swear words, and hypercorrect grammar. Two categories that are not used are precise color terms and super polite forms. This research shows that the characters in the movie can also prove the difference in language between women and men given in society. As explained in Büyukahiska's study humans have social networks such as where they belong, habits, identities as a particular type of person, or status relative to others has relation to the way people used their language features. It is considered very potential as an influence by the gender split that is characteristic of our society [13]. As stated in Büyukahiska study differences in the speech of men and women can occur because of the differences of where they brought and have different roles in society [13].

This research also found the inconsistency between male or female characters using their language features and found several factors such as plot, society, and nature of the family that influences the inconsistency of the character speech. Moreover, the inconsistency can also be influenced by the difference of intended function in each feature that makes women and men use language features related to their goals in a conversation. This last result was in line with the result of a study by Dina that women and men used their language feature vice versa which can be labelled inconsistency too. As already explained by Holmes such as tag questions have several functions either express uncertainty or politeness purpose [11]. In Büyukahiska's study the difference between women and men refers to their biological, physical, and genetic differences. For gender roles

are defined as conventions and other social, economic, political, and cultural [13]. Besides, male or female can use the opposite language features because of the influence from social factors such as with whom we are talking, social context, social setting, or the surrounding environment that caused various interactions. For example, Jackson tries to comfort Sloane at that time when she demanded mom who always forces Sloane to get quickly get a partner and says that her daughter has bad genes so Jackson gives her compliments by saying that Sloane was a great girl that has nothing to worry about. And that also happens for social dimensions to be connected with the women and men language features. For example, Sloane uses intensifiers of *so* in *I miss you so much* in her confession statement as it is shown high referential scale because she states some facts of her feeling. And the function is to convince also want him to take it seriously because they have built the strong intimacy and high solidarity towards each other in previous moments they have been a partner within a year for holiday.

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