

## The Symbolic Violence in Language

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### ABSTRACT

Language can cause effects, the effect of which can be known after they are translated in behaviour. This is because when the form of language is spoken and written, the meaning of the language may be expressed ambiguously and falsely. This means that any interlocutor can interpret language content at will. Why does the use of language pose ambiguous and pseudo-intentions when used by many users in communication? What is the value of meaningfulness gained from using this kind of language? The aim of the study is to reduce symbolic violence, which continues into physical violence, preserving the integrity and harmony of nationhood, and maintaining self-respect and moral ethics. Research findings can set the cornerstone to shape and create an honest, praiseworthy, and responsible culture of behaviour and character.

Research problems were investigated by using qualitative research design, while the type of research selected was socio cultural pragmatic. The research data was a segment of the language that indicated destructive, insulting, harmful, and tarnished language partners. The data were obtained from the spoken language, writing sources, and gesture segments. Data were collected through observation, question and answer, interviews, and documentation. Analysis of research data used was done through critical discourse.

The findings of problematic language usage research were widely used in (i) advertising, (ii) court case trials, (iii) social media, and (iv) communication interactions in the world of commerce.

The purpose of using this language was to (i) persuade language partners, (ii) deceive certain misdeeds, (iii) escape, and (iv) hurt language interlocutor directly.

Factors causing the use of this language were influenced by (i) personal/group needs, (ii) pressure and coercion of others in power, and (iii) sponsored messages.

Discussion of language usage in communication can have negative and positive effect. It will produce a negative effect, if the language user uses it in a way which is mutually harmful to the other language users. It will produce a positive effect, if the language user uses it mutually with the other language users for mutual benefits. Both uses of language have negative or positive effects, implying a meaningful value. In communication, language users like to have ambiguous and false aims, because they are constructed in a unique and persuasive way, so that the language partners are easily triggered and willing to work together. The use of straightforward, clear, and unambiguous language is not desirable for the language user, because it is dry, awkward, and rigid, so the language partners become easily bored and disgusted. In conclusion, the use of ambiguous language is more dominant among language users, because communication for honest communication interaction, straightforward, and assertive needs is not immediately met.

**Keywords:** language, violence, symbolic

### INTRODUCTION

Marked by the emergence of violence and crime, the use of language is functioned to harm, humiliate, slander, lie, and accuse communication partners, the identity of the valued decline worthless and powerless (<https://www.erasuslim.com/berita/nasional/> this is the case-expert-language-indonesia-case-defamation-al-quran.htm analysis accessed Sun day 26-2-2017).

Although there have been legal efforts to resolve this issue, the verdict has not yet had a mutually beneficial effect. The weakness of this decision is caused by the weakness of the statement. The statement, to which the key answer has ambiguous meanings, should be formulated in a lethal statement. The goal is that the statements that are prepared do not result in different interpretations. As long as there is a different

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interpretation of the meaning of language, there will not be a fair policy decision.

Responding to the accuracy and correctness of the meaning of the language can not be determined formula. Simple example can be proved as follows. Is there any wrong multiplication resulting from  $3 \times 4$ ? say 12, 5000, and 24.000.000. Related to this fact, it gives space for the thought that the language is good and true. The language meaning is the right and true meaning when language represents the selected word and the actions performed, in accordance with reality. From here it can be tested. Try to speak with a language partner, between the selected word and the deed done

- Not based on reality, what is the impact? and
- In accordance with the reality, what is the impact?

This idea is calculated to trigger and spur critical, creative, clear, firm, straightforward, clean, and clear thoughts.

Mind and feeling influence each other to determine the form and content of the language. Two important things that are related and strongly bonded are the thoughts, which can affect feelings. Feelings can affect the mind. What is the evidence? When it is known there is a small narrow alley way, usually there are lots of small children playing, known to many motorists running fast. This context disturbs the mind to conjure the thought of "be careful of many little children". This written language is then read by the readers, particularly 'riders'. In the reader's feelings arise the behavior that cause him to ride his vehicle slowly. The speed of driving needs to be reduced, and the vehicle needs to run slowly, a statement in italics expresses how the mind works after responding to the behavior of language "Be ware of many small children". The effect of writing is the cause of a feeling of cooperation with the thought of the behavior of the form and content as italics (the vehicle does not need to run faster; the driving speed needs to be reduced, and the vehicle needs to be driven slowly).

## REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Particular points to point out, concerning the attempts to gain relevant references to answer research problems, include

- The content of Law number 24 of 2009,

- The influence of thoughts, feelings, and language,
- Meaning and purpose and
- Attitudes and behaviors which represents the content of the mind, the feeling in the form of language.

## THE CONTENTS OF LAW NUMBER 24 OF 2009

The use of Bahasa Indonesia is regulated in Law No. 24 of 2009 (<http://pramukaposting.blogspot.com/2014/04/undang-undang-republik-indonesia-nomor.html>). Accessed Saturday 24-2-2017 its content reads as follows.

### Article 26

Indonesian language shall be used in legislation.

### Article 27

Indonesian must be used in official country documents.

### Article 28

Indonesian language shall be used in official speeches of the President, Vice President, and other state officials who are delivered within or outside the country.

### Article 29

- Indonesian must be used as the language of instruction in national education.
- The language of instruction as referred to in paragraph (1) may use a foreign language for the purposes that support the ability of foreign language learners.
- The use of Indonesian as referred to in paragraph (1) shall not apply to any foreign educational unit or special educational unit that educates foreign nationals.

### Article 30

Indonesian language must be used in public administration services in government agencies.

### Article 31

- Indonesian language shall be used in a memorandum of understanding or agreement involving the institution countries, government agencies of the Republic of Indonesia, private Indonesian institutions or individual Indonesian citizens.
- A memorandum of understanding or agreement as referred to in paragraph (1) involving a

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foreign party written in the national language of the foreign party and/or English.

### Article 32

- Indonesian language shall be used in national forums or international forums in Indonesia.
- Indonesian language may be used in international forums abroad.

### Article 33

- Indonesian must be used in communications in the environment of government and private work.
- Employees in the working environment of government and private institutions as referred to in paragraph (1) who have not been able to speak Indonesian must follow or participate in learning to achieve the ability to speak Indonesian.

### Article 34

Indonesian language shall be used in the report of any agency or individual to a government agency.

### Article 35

- Indonesian must be used in scientific writing and publication of scientific papers in Indonesia.
- The writing and publication referred to in paragraph (1) for the purpose or field of special study may use regional or foreign languages.

### Article 36

- Indonesian language shall be used in the name of Indonesia geography.
- The geographical name as referred to in paragraph (1) has only 1 (one) official name.
- Indonesian language shall be used for the name of buildings or buildings, roads, apartments or settlements, offices, trading complexes, trademarks, business establishments, educational institutions, organizations established or owned by Indonesian citizens or Indonesian legal entities.
- Naming as referred to in paragraph (1) and paragraph (3) may use regional or foreign language if it has historical, cultural, adatistiadat, and / or religious values.

### Article 37

- Indonesian language shall be used in information about the products of goods or

services of domestic or overseas production circulating in Indonesia.

- The information referred to in paragraph (1) may be complemented by a regional or foreign language as necessary.

### Article 38

- Indonesian must be used in general signs, road signs, public facilities, banners, and other information tools which are public services.
- The use of Indonesian as referred to in paragraph (1) may be accompanied by regional and/or foreign languages.

### Article 39

- Indonesian must be used in information through mass media.
- The mass media as referred to in paragraph (1) may use regional or foreign languages that have special purpose or special targets.

### Article 40

Further provisions concerning the use of Indonesian as referred to in Article 26 through Article 39 shall be regulated in a Presidential Regulation.

The contents of Law No. 24 of 2009 this content is considered quite clear and firm about how the use of Indonesian. Unfortunately in the language of language user practice is known not to comply. Because, there are language users who violate the rules of Law No. 24 of 2009. Violations result in adverse impacts. Because language users function the language for the purpose of hurting, desecrating, defaming, harming, slandering, accusing, and abusing communication partners. Therefore, although Indonesian has been standardized its use, language users are not reluctant to want to comply with Law No. 24 of 2009. This case indicates the future language users will not use good and correct language, but instead they resort to using language arbitrarily. The use of arbitrary language today is increasingly damaging to the the dignity of the nation. On certain occasions this issue has been questioned in the seminar discussion, but the results of the seminar do not have a meaningful effect to change of the attitude and behavior. Instead, violence and crime from language usage are rampant in society, such as the 'false' news spread through hand phone, twiter, facebook and other similar social media. Related to this problem is an important

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issue that needs to be addressed, discussed in the following sections.

### MIND, FEELINGS AND LANGUAGE

Rules associated with the use of language is regulated in Law No. 24 of 2009, but it is known that there are language users who have not been able to comply with language, can be described as follows. In addition to the fact that Indonesia is inhabited by myriads of tribes of different cultures and native languages, there are other factors that are considered to have a dominant influence on the form and content of language expressed by the language user, so that the use of the language spoken and written do not benefit language users. Another factor is thought and feeling. These two things can be known, for example see the article that read, "Beware of many little children". Written language that states like this is then read by the readers, or 'riders'. The reader's self-responsiveness rises the feeling of engaging in such behavior in that the vehicle does not need to be driven faster or the driving speed needs to be reduced, and the vehicle needs to be slowly executed. The skewed statements state how the mind responds to the "beware of many little children." The effect of writing is the cause of a feeling of cooperation with the thought of the behavior of the form and content as italics (the vehicle does not need to be ridden, the speed needs to be reduced, and the motorcycle needs to be ridden slowly).

Both thoughts and feelings have a reciprocal effect when operative to respond to an oral, written, and body language (gestures) expressed by language users. In various language activities such as dialogue, debate, speech, and frequently asked questions, it is clear that various kinds of language actions are expressed when responding to a language response expressing unique as well as strange feelings and touching different opinions of 'contrast'. The various spoken and written words and phrases will be affected, along with form and the contents, which can be negative and positive.

### MEANING AND PURPOSE

The language expressed by the language user becomes an ornament of meaning and intention of speech, writing, and the fact reality of action ([http://kbr.id/berita/11-2016/imam\\_besar\\_masji\\_d\\_istiqlal\\_ucapan\\_ahok\\_bukan\\_penistaan/86404.html](http://kbr.id/berita/11-2016/imam_besar_masji_d_istiqlal_ucapan_ahok_bukan_penistaan/86404.html) accessed Sunday 26-2-2017). Not little is known the form and content of the language that should have a certain meaning and

purpose. However, the reality of the act says something else. An example of the meaning of the statement in the sentence, "The Constitutional Court will not benefit losers", "I do not even receive a penny from the person you mentioned!". The meaning of the sentence in this statement may indicate yes for affirmative answer or yes for negative answer. The answer is yes, if language user declares this sentence with the action done according to the actual fact. However, if the language user violates the fact, the answer yes indicates yes as negative answer. Addressing truth and accuracy of meaning with intention must always be associated with facts and reality. Therefore, language users are required to give an answer meticulously and thoroughly every time there is a stimulus that is considered not properly understood.

The statement in the phrase, "Smoking kills you", sounds confusing in that it mean whether the message conveys a threatening. The answer is not obvious yet, because it can mean anger, annoyance, remind, rebuke, and tell. It is the uncertainty of this certainty that makes the language use be careful. Be careful in choosing words and arranging them into statements that do not give rise to various interpretations of meaning.

Ideally language should be easily used by language users. However, the language is loaded with a particular interest, a reality that does not always match reality. Using language with no reference to reality has emerged pervasively because there are many language users committing it. The commit it in order to actualize their desire, which sometimes are hard to come true, in a reasonable and rational way. For example, it is commonly found in the promotion of herbal medicine, stating that the product can cure all diseases. It is seldom the seller of this product that describes the quality of the actual quality. The same thing happened to the promotion of selling soy sauce, on which we commonly hear "There is no second-rank soy sauce". For sure, all the products of ketchup are definitely number 1. Though everyone would say that the products are not the same. In this regard, it is known that the statement formulated in the sentence needs to be corrected.

Using language with no defects requires learning, training, internalizing, and preserving. To maintain the harmony of behavior in various activities, the stability and volatility of relationships among others will occur. That will

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make the language expressed result in a misinterpretation of contact between participants. For instance, language may be meant for a joke, but the partners take the contents seriously. This incident does not appear on deliberate language themes, but can occur suddenly and immediately. For example, the phrase "friends become opponents, opponents become friends", "no true friends, but no eternal enemies", and "wolf in sheep's clothing". This expression arises when it is known there is the experience of acting in a certain way, due to the prior experience related to it. Contoh lain penyikatan/kependekatan kata CBSA, pemendekatan ini dapat ditafsirkan kepanjangannya menjadi Cara Belajar Siswa Aktif, Cicilan Baju Seragam Abu-abu, dan Cah Bodho Soyo Akeh. Munculnya pemahaman maksud ini, karena ada pengalaman tertentu yang terkait erat dengan kejadian.

### ATTITUDE AND BEHAVIOR

Attitudes and behavior are two words whose meaning are often confused. Attitude is a psychological aspect, which may appear visible or invisible. However, behavior is an activity / action / deed that can be seen through senses of vision. A new can be seen when it is expressed in the form of language and content. When the attitude has not been expressed in the form of language and its contents are difficult to know, because the position is in the mind. While things are still in our mind, no one will know the planned as it has yet to be expressed through form and content. For example, when looking at this picture, certain language behavior will be expressed.

This image can be used as a medium to recognize the attitude of language behavior that will be expressed and made visible to the eye. When not spoken and written, no one knows what will happen. Because, the answer which can be revealed will not necessarily call for one answer, because the creations of the mind can construct any circumstances. One language user may be just one word disclosed, but another language user can express more than the phrase. This depends on how individual makes use of their creativity in language use.

Based on the references that have been studied in depth, the problem related to language usage is made research object. This issue is examined so that language usage issues do not become volatile, due to improper language functioning and inappropriate communication needs. If this subject is not seriously taken into account, it

may have adverse effects among language users in the same country. Historical records evince that the independence of one nation is achieved, because this nation, 'Indonesia', has one language that is Indonesian. Indonesian language became a unifying tool of the nation, not tribe, religion, and certain cultures

### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research activity was designed using qualitative research, because the activities aimed to express the findings as they are, not the irrational mindset engineering. The study was argumentative descriptive in nature. Researchers presented findings based on team discussions and experts in the field. Expert experts who were involved as resource persons were the experts in image design, language, sociology, anthropology, and culture. The data used as the object of research were the language segment that were considered to violate the ethics of language usage. The data source of the research object was selected from news published in printed and electronic media. Data were collected by documentation, observation, interview, and questionnaire. Collected data were analyzed by using evaluative-interpretative technique. How it works determined the position of the domain that was found, the certainty of the container so the factor of determining the answer to the problem needs to be expressed as what. The determination of the validity of answers was measured from the completion of the answers to the saturation point, obtained from the findings of in-depth discussion by the team and experts who were experts in their field.

### RESEARCH FINDINGS

The research activities found

- That behind the violation of the use of language laid a political factor, needs, and feelings,
- That cases that occurred due to violation of the use of language was symbolic and physical violence, and
- That solutions need to be done to solve problems through criminal law.

### DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

Why do the factors of politics, needs, and feelings cause the use of language violate the ethics of language? When the political problem goes unstable, the language-user's reason becomes nosy. These nosy parties think of how the desired goal can be achieved. Who is the

language user who noses his mind? These include those who were once given a noble position, yet have now been neglected. As a result, they set up a plan in order to reach their goal, anyhow. Finally, the functionalized languages are not functioning for the proper interests, but for the sake of self-interest for themselves, neglecting the fact that they have limited competence and potential. In short, he was not aware of what he was incapable of. Due to this culture and view, he views the other side inferior, humiliated, and worthless. The culture of behavior and character that exists in it has a big share to be the capital to do anything. Consequently, any language that is expressed is considered a perfect form and contents, which actually plunges itself into a culture of behavior and misleading characters. Why is it so? The truth and accuracy of the stated statement of sentence is not dependent on the validity and the quality as if it were determined by a particular formula, but rather it is determined by the chosen word and the deed carried out in reality or beyond reality. In short, the use of language in accordance to the facts or reality is the use of language that does not violate ethics.

Symbolic violence and physical violence are a real form of impact on the use of language that violates ethics. It begins with symbolic violence in the form of words, sentences, paragraphs, discourses, both oral, written, and gestures that represent a culture of disgraceful behavior and character. This stimulus raises a response, because certain parties may be affected differently. There is a war of words, taking place through the mouth, twitter, Whatsapp, hand phone, and other sophisticated social media. However, all violations in the form of symbolic violence, against which one may argue based on a law, are powerless. Therefore, this subject uses the opportunity to launch their attacks on certain parties who are considered opposed to their opinion. Incredibly this symbolic violence has happened in the past, but has not received any serious attention. Serious acts have recently taken place when they have taken their path, because the court can not make any verdict if there is no clear and visible evidence. It should be noted that disrespectful behavior is that nobody wants to admit things honestly. The perpetrator must cease the misconduct done because they know if they claim to be subject to self-harming sanctions. On this account, language has a strategic position to adjust atmosphere for disgraceful behavior which does not immediately meet the answer. Examples of language empowerment in cyanide-coffee case,

humiliation of state emblem and first president, Dimas Kanjeng, the misuse of mosque funds, blasphemy, and the case involving Munir. All these cases solve the culture of behavior and irresponsible character. Therefore, laymans said that the court might belong to many, but the sense of justice was never met. What is that for? After the trial, it was decided that there was a protest. In this regard, it can be corrected that the language used is basically not good and not true, because many issues spark problem of pros and cons. Thus, it is necessary to develop a language capable of answering potentially chaotic problems.

Physical violence is not deliberately discussed in detail, because it is sufficiently clear and resolute language contents that deal with various aspects of a given case. However, if examined carefully, there is something that needs to be refined. For example, the same case in different chapters can generate different outcome, such as one claiming to be subject to 4-year sanctions, but the other is subject to 5-year sanctions. Of course, this fact is a cause of indecision in determining decisions. In contrast to ideas formulated in a chapter whose contents must be clear, firm, straightforward, clear and clean, to which many are likely not to oppose.

The solution to overcome the problem of violence existing is through criminal law. However, the law under guard is more effective to overcome the behavior of physical violence. Why can this violence be overcome immediately? This is because of the evidence that is visible our eyes and can be corrected directly by anyone. In contrast to symbolic violence, if there is a symbolic-violence issue, then this problem can not be immediately resolved. This is owing to difficult evidence and perplexing recognition because the language used carries complex meaning. There is no certainty of the formula that can be used as a guarantee to establish honesty and dishonesty.

### CONCLUSION

Violations of language usage are motivated by political factors, as well as the influence of needs, and feelings. Violations of language usage may result in symbolic violence and physical violence. Violations of language usage are resolved through criminal law.

### SUGGESTION

Due to the detrimental political influence, the ambitions of certain persons to gain power over, the minds and feelings of certain unstable

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individuals, trigger and spur the arbitrary use of language against communication partners who are seen to be of opposition side. Related to this regard, it is recommended Indonesian language users to use good and correct language. Speaking good and true is meant here is the language user is able to express the selected word in accordance with the reality that is done. In relation to the demands of this suggestion, language users are expected to continue to practice continuously thinking critically, creatively, innovatively, clearly, firmly, straightforwardly, and clearly. Do not be easily displaced by new influences that are touted to bring positive effects, because these positive impacts can lead to positive praiseworthy or positively reprehensible.

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