

**A STUDY OF ENGLISH TABOO UTTERANCES USED
BY MAIN CHARACTERS IN AMERICAN COMEDY MOVIE
*TROPIC THUNDER***

THESIS

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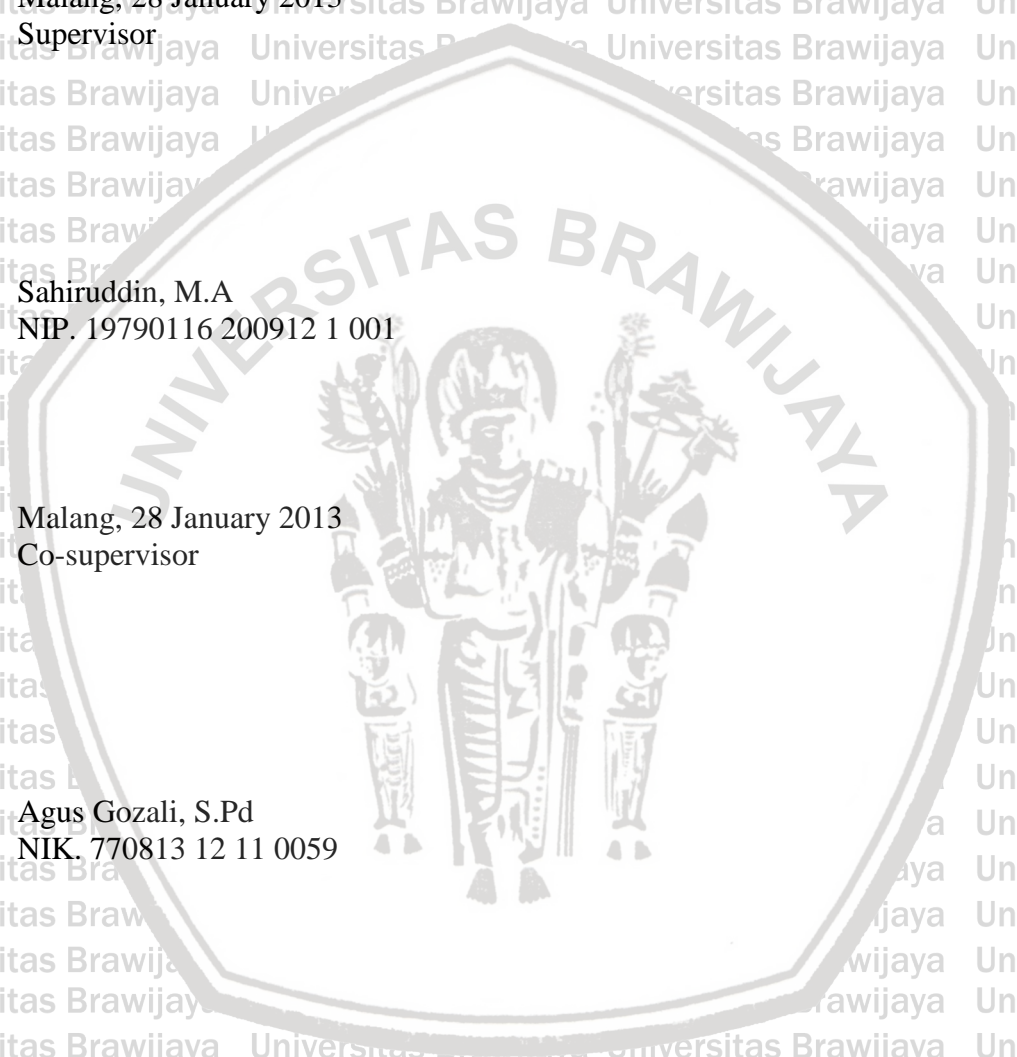
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ABSTRACT

Widyastuti, Ella. 2013. **A Study of English Taboo Utterances Used by Main Characters in American Comedy Movie *Tropic Thunder***. Study Program of English, Faculty of Culture Studies, Department of Language and Literature Universitas Brawijaya, Supervisor: Sahiruddin; Co-Supervisor: Agus Gozali.

Key words: Sociolinguistics, taboo word, comedy movie, *Tropic Thunder*

Language as a means of human communication in its use is mostly influenced by socio-cultural norms. Some language expressions are considered to be acceptable in the social use and some expression are considered improper or harmful to other people. The improper language expression is in sociolinguistic terms called taboo expression. The writer is interested in analyzing taboo utterances used and expressed by the four main characters in American comedy movie *Tropic Thunder*. This study attempts to answer the following two research problems, namely: (1) what types of English taboo utterances are used by the main characters in American comedy movie *Tropic Thunder*, and (2) what reasons of using taboo utterances are by four main characters in American comedy movie *Tropic Thunder*.

In analyzing the types of taboo utterances in this study, the writer uses the theory of Timothy Jay (1996). Categorizing of taboo are into seven types of taboo, they are cursing, profanity, blasphemy, obscenity, sexual harassment, vulgarity, and insult. In analyzing the reasons of using taboo, the writer uses theory of Anderson and Trudgill (1990) involving these reasons of taboo use; (1) psychological, (2) linguistics, and (3) social reason. This study uses a qualitative method approach with document analysis to analyze the data of this study as utterances containing taboo utterances used by four main characters in American comedy *Tropic Thunder*.

This study reveals that seven types of taboo expression proposed by Jay are 69 Obscenity utterances (60%), 17 Vulgarity utterances (15%), 13 Cursing utterances (11%), 12 Profanity utterances (10%), 7 Sexual Harassment utterances (6%), 4 Insult utterances (3%), and 2 Blasphemy utterances (2%). In addition the reasons of using taboo utterances cover psychological, linguistic, and social reason. Specifically, psychological reason is the mostly used type found in this study. Psychological reason is caused by frustration feelings, which from an unexpected event or shock, most people prefer to swear for showing emotion directly.

The writer hopes for the next researcher to be more deeply in analyzing about taboo word. In addition, writer can use this knowledge by comparing English taboo with taboo words in Indonesian. The writer also suggests the next researcher uses different theories and methods if they are want to conduct similar research.

ABSTRAK

Widyastuti, Ella. 2013. **Studi Tentang Ujaran Tabu Bahasa Inggris yang Digunakan Oleh Karakter Inti dalam Film Komedi Amerika *Tropic Thunder***. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, Fakultas Ilmu Budaya, Jurusan Sastra Inggris Universitas Brawijaya. Pembimbing: (I) Sahiruddin (II) Agus Gozali

Kata Kunci: Sociolinguistik, kata tabu, film komedi, *Tropic Thunder*

Bahasa sebagai alat komunikasi antar manusia dalam penggunaannya sangat dipengaruhi oleh norma sosial budaya. Beberapa ekspresi bahasa dianggap penggunaannya dalam kehidupan sosial tidak benar atau merugikan orang lain. Ekspresi bahasa ini dalam hal sociolinguistik disebut ekspresi tabu. Penulis tertarik dalam menganalisis ucapan tabu yang digunakan dan diungkapkan oleh empat karakter utama dalam film komedi Amerika *Tropic Thunder*. Penelitian ini memiliki dua permasalahan, yaitu: (1) tipe ucapan tabu bahasa Inggris apa yang digunakan oleh karakter utama dalam film komedi Amerika *Tropic Thunder*, dan (2) apa alasan menggunakan ucapan tabu oleh empat karakter utama di film komedi Amerika *Tropic Thunder*.

Dalam menganalisis jenis ucapan tabu dalam penelitian ini, penulis menggunakan teori Timothy Jay (1996). Pengkategorian kata tabu ada tujuh, yaitu mengutuk, kata kotor, penghujatan, asusila, pelecehan seksual, bahasa vulgar, dan penghinaan. Dalam menganalisis alasan menggunakan tabu, penulis menggunakan teori dari Anderson and Trudgill (1990) yang melibatkan alasan penggunaan kata tabu yaitu: (1) psikologis, (2) linguistik, dan (3) alasan sosial. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan metode kualitatif dengan analisis dokumen untuk menganalisa data dari penelitian ini yang mengandung ucapan tabu yang digunakan oleh empat karakter utama di film komedi Amerika *Tropic Thunder*.

Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa tujuh jenis ekspresi tabu menurut Jay yaitu ucapan asusila (60%), ucapan bahasa vulgar (15%), ucapan mengutuk (11%), ucapan kata-kata kotor (10%), ucapan pelecehan seksual (6%), ucapan hinaan (3%), dan ucapan menghujat (2%). Selain itu alasan menggunakan ucapan-ucapan tabu adalah alasan psikologis, linguistik, dan sosial. Secara khusus, alasan psikologis sebagian besar ditemukan dan digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Alasan psikologis disebabkan oleh perasaan frustrasi, karena sebuah peristiwa tak terduga dan seseorang lebih memilih bersumpah untuk menunjukkan emosi secara langsung.

Penulis berharap bagi peneliti selanjutnya untuk lebih mendalam dalam menganalisis tentang kata tabu. Selain itu penulis dapat menggunakan pengetahuan ini untuk membandingkan tabu bahasa Inggris dengan Indonesia. Penulis juga menyarankan peneliti selanjutnya menggunakan teori atau metode yang berbeda jika ingin melakukan penelitian serupa.

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The writer

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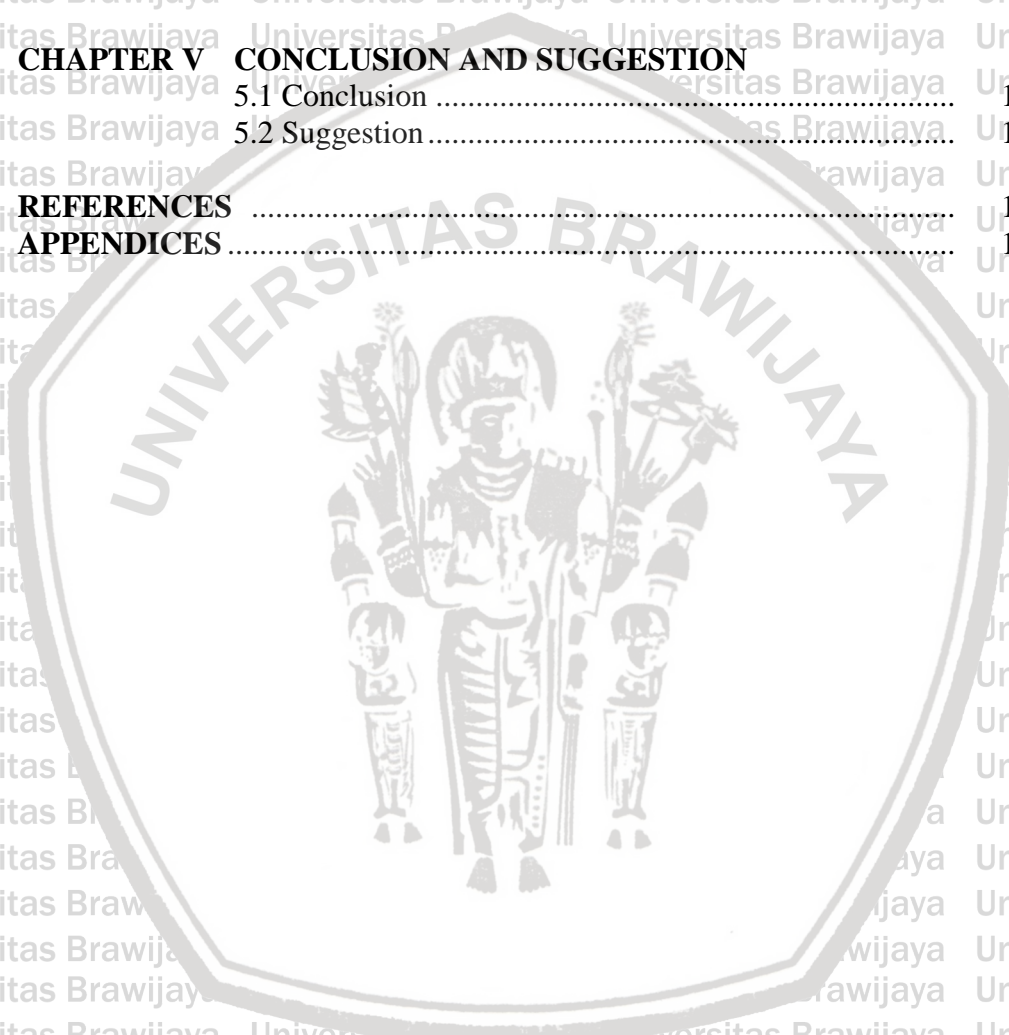
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