

Gender Toxicity in Language Communication

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ABSTRACT

This study deals with gender toxicity in language communication. The aim of this study is to describe toxic language that is accepted by male and female in circle communication. Descriptive qualitative is used as research method of this study. This study described the result of society language communication recorder. The result, there are two kinds of toxic language, toxic muscularity and toxic femininity language that was accepted by male and female in language communication.

KEYWORDS

gender; toxic; femininity; muscularity; language.

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INTRODUCTION

Communication was one of the very important activities that were human done in life. Communication brings human purpose and needs. Single word, phrase or clause has their own meaning. Speaker and addresser contributed in communication. Language that was used in communication depend its speaker. In society, there two kind of languages communication utter, male and female.

Male spoke directly to their addresser. Male spoke literally with their exact purpose, it meant to make sure the addresser understand about the topic of communication. Different with female speaker, sometimes female spoke with their indirect meaning. The meaning of indirect, female used satire, metaphor and some kind of languages that was needed much imagination and time to catch the meaning of the language. It was a gender difference in language communication. Male and female had their own way in doing communication.

Language also had its own position in communication. There were good language and also bad language. Good language was used to give information, suggestion, advice, praise and some kind of kindness. Good language brought us into the very positive vibes in language communication. Much people became close because they were treated by good language. A good family relationship also started from good language. This was a good language took position.

It was quite similar with good language. Bad language also took position in communication. Bad language actually used to mock, insulting, or some kinds of bad words out of human mouth. Bad language also took place in bad relationship with family, friend and couple. In this modern era, bad language called as toxic language.

Toxic language existed in human life. Every single person did a toxic language, conscious or unconscious, human did it. They speak naturally a toxic language such the language as normal as to be heard. People did not think about the impact of toxic language for their self or the addresser. Toxic language was done by male or female. The user of toxic language did not look at the gender, the rate of age or social status. Everyone was suspected to be user of toxic language.

Toxic language came from people who are exactly lack of knowledge about modernization and cultural background. There are many people cannot able to control their

language to judging someone, and it can hurt or burden someone mind. There are also many people out there use their language to hurt someone feeling and mind consciously. Based on this idea, toxic language that addressee to someone can be conscious and unconscious.

Toxic language became the very basic idea of this research. There were many people out there use toxic language conscious and unconscious way in society. Toxic language was used to specific purpose. Each speaker had their own purpose used toxic language. Some kind of toxic language purposes,

1. to attack someone mentally
2. to attack someone gender
3. to attack someone position

The focus of this research was actually about attacking gender. There were many kinds of toxic language that attacked someone gender, and it happened naturally in human life communication. Some speakers though their language were normal and accepted by addresser, but actually, the language were a toxic to addressers and it hurt them. This research was going to focus on toxic language that accepted by male and female in language communication.

RESEARCH METHODS

Descriptive qualitative research was used as research method. The researcher was the key instrument, and the other instrument in this research was sound recorder. It was used to record society communication that connected with toxic language that is done by male and female and accepted by male and female. The data was the result of selecting language communication.

The technique of data analysis used is interactive analysis by Miles et al., (2014). In this research, it was used for the ongoing analysis and after collecting the research data. An analysis model consists of three concurrent steps:

- (i) Data condensation is the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting and/or transforming the data that appear in the full corpus (body) of written up field notes, interview document, and other empirical material. The processes of selecting data are focusing, simplifying and resuming cigarette advertisement.
- (ii) Data display is the process of organizing the data. The researcher does not need to display the data, because the data was result of recording society communication.
- (iii) Drawing and verification conclusion were done through deciding what the data mean or finding after reading the result from resuming.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Toxic language could be accepted or uttered by male and female. Toxic language potentially happened in life circle, it probably came from family, friend or someone special. This language probably happened conscious and unconscious. Conscious means, the speaker did not realize hurting or burdening someone mind and feeling, it happened because lack of knowledge or could not able to control the language. Unconscious means, the speaker exactly realized about language that came out from his/her mouth and it designed to hurt and burden someone mind and feeling.

Based on the data that was found by researcher in the field of research, there are two kinds of toxic language that is exist in society. There are toxic muscularity and toxic femininity. Both of these toxic languages exactly accepted from nearest circle of addressee.

Society teaches us to accept toxic language, although it can be hurt or burden our mind, and it potentially broke our psychology.

Toxic muscularity

Toxic muscularity is one of toxic language that was accepted by a male from their circle, it probably from family, friend and relationship. The speaker can be male or female. Toxic muscularity happened because someone is lack of information about male life, or it can be ancient of mind set that cannot accept the modernization. These toxic languages happened especially in Indonesia, it is happened because the cultural background of Indonesian that really attached in daily life. That is way, these all toxic languages happen in communication. Here, some selected toxic languages that utter to male in daily communication.

1. Someone said “seriously, a man just stays at home? You are just like a woman”. (*serius cowok kok dirumah aja, kelaur sana maen, kek cewek aja.*)
This language directly pointed to a male that who like stay at home. This language was uttered by one of family member to a man that chose to stay at home better that is going outside, such as hang out. The very basic question, is it wrong if a male just love staying at home? The answer is no. The very basic problem here is the utterance maker. People who like to stay at home are not limited by gender.
2. “Seriously, a man washes the dishes? You just like a woman”. (*cowok kok nyuci piring, kek perempuan.*)
This utterance directly pointed to a male who washes the dishes at home. The speaker is a male also and a member of family. Especially in Indonesia, every single home job is a part of female. It is mind set of people who is not followed the world modernization. People who think traditionally, washing dishes is a female job. This utterance was not good to utter to other people. It can broke someone mental and burden their mind.
3. “Seriously, a man loves cooking? You just like a woman. (*Cowok kok rajin masak, seperti cewek.*)
Long time ago, especially in Indonesia. Cooking is female basic home work. There were nothing man did cooking. But time went to modern. There are so many male became a chef in a big restaurant. Traditional people are going to say “why you are cooking, you are a male. This is a female job”. But actually every single person must be able to cook, this skill used to life defend. Cooking in this modern day are not female skill only, but also male. That ways, this utterance became a toxic muscularity for male. And it can be poisoning male mind set about cooing and it can humiliate male pride.
4. “Seriously, a man wear pink shirt? (*Cowok kok pake baju pink.*)
Past year ago, especially in Indonesia, colour also has specific gender. For instance “Pink colour”. Pink is identically with female. Therefore if anyone especially male wear a shirt with pink colour, he will be raving material. The utterance above can be uttered by male or female to male who wear pink colour. Utter that statement can be a toxic muscularity for a male who wear pink shirt. It can be broke someone confidence and comfortable in public. Whereas, colours have not genders.
5. “Seriously, a man learns dancing? (*Cowok kok belajar nari.*)
Dancing has gentle and graceful movement. Therefore some people who think traditionally, dancing only suitable for female. Because of that idea, this utterance rises up in life communication. The speaker of this utterance can be male and female that is addressed to a male who like dancing. This statement are able to broke

someone confidence and feel shy in a public society. This utterance is one of toxic language that often came out from people who did not see modernization. Actually, dancing are able to do every single gender, it does not limited activity.

6. “Seriously, a man cannot play soccer?” (*Cowok kok gak pande main bola.*)
Soccer is one of activity that is always played by male, it is show how masculine someone. Even at this time, there are also many female soccer squads. The very basic idea, is there any measurement that is used if a male cannot play soccer is not masculine?

This statement “Seriously, a man cannot play soccer?” always rises up in society, especially among male. If there is a male cannot play soccer is going to face with this toxic language. Especially in Indonesia, a male who cannot play soccer is going to get mock from other male or may be female. Masculinity of a male cannot be seen from ability in playing soccer. Because of this toxic statement, there are many male avoid many social meeting and feel uncomfortable in social communication. This statement also humiliates male pride.

7. “Seriously, a man wears skincare?” (*Cowok kok pake skincare.*)
Skincare is used to protect human skin from many problems. Skincare long time ago was used only female to make them keep beauty and fresh. Now day, there are also many male is used skincare to protect them from dull and aging. Actually there is no matter male or female used skincare, but this statement does mean anything for people who do not follow modernization. They think skincare are only for female and male is not suitable or proper to used it. “Seriously, a man wears skincare?” is an utterance that able to humiliate male pride. This statement is toxic muscularity that able to break someone feeling and confidence.
8. “Seriously, a man cannot ride a motorcycle?” (*Cowok kok gak bisa naik motor.*)
Riding a motor cycle look like so masculine, but as an information, there is not all male are able to ride motor cycle, because some male like to walk and drive a car. Toxic language in society rises up about if a male cannot ride a motor cycle look like a female or less masculinity. This toxic language is able to burden male mental and comfortable in society, especially in friendship circle.

Toxic femininity

Toxic language is not only accepted by male, female also accepted toxic language in their life. Female dominantly accepts toxic language from family circle and friendship circle. Toxic language is accepted by female is dominantly uttered by female also. It is happen because female likes to compare among female.

1. “A girl cannot cook. Poor you are.” (*Anak perempuan gak pinter masak, kasian se kali.*)
Cooking is an ability that actually must have every single person in the world. There is no limited whose are able to cook, male or female. If there is any kinds of gender cannot able to cook, there is no matter of it. In Indonesian culture, female should able to cook, because of that, the statement in this term rise up in family member. That kind of toxic language are able to burden female, and make them fell unconfident.
2. “Seriously, a girl’s face has much acne?” (*Cewek kok mukanya jerawat.*)
Skin problem in human life is one of basic toxic language, especially in Indonesia. There are many people face toxic language because of their skin problem, for instance acne. If there is any female has much acne in their face, they will get toxic

language from their friendship language. That toxic language is able to ruin their confidence and burden their life every single day remember that utterance.

3. “You look fat right now” (*Kok gendut kali sekarang.*)
Among females always compare each other. Some females feel they are perfect and others girl is not. Therefore, toxic language is going to utter to others female even they have same social circle. For instance, a girl said to another girl “you look fat right now”. This is the very toxic language that is going to face by female in their friendship or family circle. This toxic language is able to ruin a female confidence and burden her about weight.
4. “You are not match to your boyfriend, he is handsome and you look ugly”. (*Kau tidak pantas sama cowok mu, dia ganteng, kau jelek.*)
Friendship circle is one of circle that give big impact for someone life, especially in female life. But, some toxic language comes from its own life circle. Toxic language in this term always rises up in friendship circle. Actually this statement does not have a serious meaning or kidding. This kidding became a toxic language for a female and it is able to ruin friendship, good communication, and specifically ruin confidence and feel burden about it.
5. “This dress is not suitable to you”. (*Kau gak cocok pake baju ini.*)
Some female like to compare their selves to others females, such as in wearing dress. Some female think that their dress is better than other. Therefore, toxic language rises up based on this situation. Among of them try to compare what they wear. Toxic language in this term has specific impact to the addressee. For instance, a female feel uncomfortable in that public.

Based on some example about gender toxicity, male and female are able to get toxic language in their life. Toxic languages are able to come from family and friendship circle. Toxic language directly attacks someone mental, such as, feeling uncomfortable, humiliate pride of someone, burdening mind set, breaks modernization and ideology of someone. Based on these cases, it is important wide our knowledge and follow life modernization and technology to make sure, we do not utter toxic language to other people. Another idea, it is important to choose life circle to make sure every single person among us give positive vibes and response.

CONCLUSION

Toxic language is a language that has to face in modern life. It is happen because some people a big country still has traditional mind set or do not follow the world modernization. Toxic language comes from many kinds of social aspect. But the very dominant aspect comes from family circle and friendship circle. Toxic language can be uttered by male and female to male and female also. Toxic language can be uttered by old or young person, and can be accepted by old and you person. Toxic language also happen because limited knowledge of someone or lack on information, lack of life circle or monotone only one life social circle, such as just stay in a back yard village that far from technology and modernization. Toxic language potentially breaks someone mental and confidence. It is also able to humiliate male or female pride in social life.

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