

**THE FUNCTION OF TABOO WORDS AND THEIR EXPRESSIONS IN  
*BAD BOYS MOVIE***

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**ABSTRAK**

*Jurnal ini berjudul “The Function Of Taboo Words and Their Expressions In Bad Boys Movie”. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk mengidentifikasi jenis ekspresi mereka yang digunakan oleh pemeran utama dan untuk mengkategorikan kata-kata tabu yang digunakan oleh pemeran utama dalam film action komedi yang berjudul Bad Boys. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah teori Andersson and Hirsch (1985) dalam skripsi Gabrielle Azzaro. (2005). Four-letter Films Taboo Language in Movies dan teori Timothy Jay (1999:25), Edwin Battistella (2005:38), Montagu`s theory (2001:72). Metode yang digunakan dalam menganalisis penelitian ini adalah metode observasi. Pembahasan data diawali dengan menonton film Bad Boys, memberi tanda pada ekspresi dan kata-kata tabu yang digunakan oleh pemeran utama dalam percakapan mereka. Hasil dari pembahasan ini menunjukkan bahwa pemeran utama menggunakan ekspresi kata-kata tabu untuk tujuan yang berbeda-beda..*

Kata kunci: ekspresi, fungsi.

**1. Background**

Language is a purely human and no instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions, and desires by means of a system of voluntarily produced symbols (Edward Sapir, 1884) . Language divides into

two types, formal and informal. A prototype of formal language might be the sentence read out by a judge at the end of a trial. Prototypical informal speech would be produced in a relaxed conversation among close friends or family members. But a clear and general definition of "formality" is not obvious (Labov, 1972).

Taboo word is a part of informal language. Taboo word produces disgust, embracement, and violate social norms in the society concerned. (Jay, 1999:84). The word taboo originally referred to the acts which were forbidden or were to be avoided. Now, it may refer to both such acts and their reference. What acts or words are forbidden reflects the particular customs, cultural value and views of the society. Some words may be used in certain circumstances or certain cultures, hut not in others (Zonghe, 1999).

Nowadays, movie is one of the popular entertainments for many people. Movie is one of the way to deliver message from the director and writer to the spectator. Movie also adds the visual effect. There are many movies that use taboo words in their conversation. One of them is a movie entitled *Bad Boys*; it is an action-comedy story. *Bad Boys* use taboo words, because the main characters had many problems in this movie. They expressed their feeling by using taboo words. It was interesting to discuss this movie. Because we can discover how the main characters express their feeling by using taboo words when they resolve their case.

## 2. Problems of the study

Based on the background above, the problems of this study are:

- a) What are the expression of taboo words used by main characters in *Bad Boys* movie?
- b) What are the functions of those expression?

### **3. Aims of the study**

Related to the problems of the study, the aims of this study are to describe about the expression of taboo words used by the main characters and to analyze the function of taboo words used by the main characters in *Bad Boys Movie*.

### **4. Research method**

There are three points containing in research method such as: data source; the second, the method and technique of collecting data; the third, the method and technique of analyzing data. They are described as follows:

#### **4.1. Data source**

The main data of this study was taken from the movie entitled *Bad Boys* written by George Gallo and directed by Michael Bay in 1995. There was a case in narcotic division of police department. Marcus and Mike had many situations when resolve this case. They expressed by using taboo words. It made this movie was chosen

#### **4.2. Method and Technique of Collecting Data**

This study used documentation method to collect the data. First, the script was read carefully and then compared it with the movie. Then the taboo words that are found in the script are collected.

### 4.3. Method and Technique of Analyzing Data

In analyzing the data, it was used qualitative method and quantitative method. First, analyze the data of taboo expressions according to Andersson`s theory (1985) and analyze the data of the function of those expressions according to Timothy Jay`s theory (1999:25). Finally, counting the number of taboo words based on their category.

## 5. Analysis of The Function of Taboo Words and Their Expressions In *Bad Boys Movie*

### 5.1. The Expressions

#### 1. **Fucking** door!

##### *Analysis:*

Marcus and Julie were followed by his enemy. Marcus and Julie run to the Marcus`s car. Marcus was annoyed, because the door did not open. Marcus expressed by *expletive expression*, because he express for the door.

#### 2. **Shit!** I know they got a look my license plate.

##### *Analysis:*

Marcus and Julie escaped from the enemy by his car. Marcus knew that the enemy looked his license plate. He looked annoyed his self. He expressed by *abusive expression*, because he express to his self.

## 5.2. The Function

### 1. Driving like a **bitch**

#### *Analysis:*

Marcus drove slow the car. Mike wanted Marcus drive faster than now. Mike used “*bitch*”. “*Bitch*” was an *epithet*. Mike used epithets, because Marcus did not drive fast.

### 2. **Goddamn** it, Man.

#### *Analysis:*

Marcus had annoyed with the captain. The captain wanted Marcus to be Mike. He did for the witness, because Julie just wanted to see Mike. Marcus used “*goddamn*”. “*Goddamn*” was a *profanity*. Marcus used *profanity*, because he was annoyed with the situation. His captain wanted Marcus pretend to be Mike. He was annoyed with this idea.

## 6. Conclusion

From the findings and the analysis, some conclusions can be drawn from this movie. In general, the function of taboo words and their expressions by the main characters appeared in that movie. First, the main characters more often used the abusive expressions. It happened because the main characters were more likely to express what they felt to someone directly. Second, it can be said the main characters produced more obscenity than the other. They were supporting or arguing each other by using taboo words.

Finally, from the result of this current study on the *Bad Boys* movie, the main characters were Marcus and Mike. They were able to resolve their case. On the resolve this case, they had many problems.

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