

## **DIRTY WORDS IN MIKI YOSHIKAWA'S YANKI-KUN TO MEGANE-CHAN COMIC (REVIEW OF LEXICAL FORM)**

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### **Abstract**

Dirty words are considered as a part of language phenomenon. They have their own forms and categories. This research discusses the Japanese dirty words which is contained in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* comic. It is aimed to describe lexical form in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* comic. This research utilizes descriptive qualitative method. The data research is obtained dirty words in Comic *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* comic volume 1. In analyzing the data, theory of Fargo (2007) and Jay (1992) are used to describe lexical form of dirty words. The result of this research reveals that there are five categories out of ten found. There are 9,5% of obscenity, 40% of slang, 3% cursing, 27% of epithets, and 20,5% of scatology. This shows that slang and Epithets are the most used in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* volume 1 comic.

**Keywords:** dirty words, lexical form, comic, Japanese.

### **Introduction**

Language, as an instrument of communication has an important role in human life. It is used to convey an idea, such as views, emotions and attitudes from a speaker or a writer to listener or reader. There are two kinds of language based on the way to convey, written and spoken language. Spoken language is conveyed directly meanwhile written language is conveyed indirectly. Sapir (1921: 8) states that language is purely human and non-instinctive method of communicating ideas, emotions and desire by means a system of producing symbol voluntarily.

Furthermore, the context has also a great importance in which language is used. Thus, the language and the context are inseparable in an interaction. It means that there are social factors in which play a crucial role in direct language use between speakers and listeners. In other words, the use of language depends largely on the social context where is an interaction occurred. Consequently, there are some aspects that affect language including the social structure, the social environment and values of the society.

Language is deeply rooted in the culture of its people since it reflects their norms and taboos. Hence, ignoring these beliefs during the interaction may lead to misunderstanding between speakers and listeners since every individual has to behave appropriately in society regards to the norms. In this case, one should be noted that

all languages have certain words, expressions, sentences and topics which are banned to be uttered or discussed in public. However, in real communication, people often forget about the different principles of their culture. Sometimes, people tend to speak and act by using words and gestures which are forbidden. This language or word is one of them called a dirty word.

According to an oxford dictionary, the dirty word is an offensive or indecent word. Dirty words certainly exist in every language in the world. One of them in Japanese. The forms of Dirty word can be found in various media such as comics, animations, movies and comics. There are narrations with pictures (in magazines, newspapers or books) that are easy to understand and funny. Comics are narratives that emphasize the motion, movement and actions displayed through the ordered drawings and the words made (Poerwadarminta, 2008: 147).

The comics used as the data in this study were Yanki-Kun Miki Yoshikawa to Megane-Chan (2011). The interesting thing about this comic is the use of dirty words in the daily conversation of Japanese society, especially among young people

Language can vary to any forms and it is known as language phenomenon. Dirty words are one of the language phenomenon. Using dirty words will create some problems to speaker and listener who do not understand each other about the meaning. It needs further explanation for this language phenomenon.

For this reason, there are some main problems which are interesting to be analyzed in this thesis. They are 1) What are the forms of dirty words in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* vol. 1 comic, and 2) what kind of dirty word is dominant in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* vol. 1 comic.

## **Literature Review**

Sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics that takes language as an object of study, in a way that is usually distinguished from how syntax, semantics, morphology, and phonology handle it. It is a field that analyzes language as part of social property. The study explores the functions and the varieties of language, attitudes of people towards language use and users. Some linguists used term of sociolinguistics as a study about relation between language and society in purpose to make a better understanding about the structure of language and how a language is functioned in communication (Wardhaugh, 1986:12). In sociolinguistics is also studied about variations in a language.

Holmes (2001: 73) states that language variation is linguistics form, which is based on social circumstances and included vocabulary, grammar and pronunciation of dialect, and spelling are included in different language. Thus, language variation is determined by social itself, their background, status, education, and degree of formality of a situation where the language is used. It means that there is no language without having variation. All languages in this world are involved in a great deal of variation.

Because of the variation, the speaker of the language speaks differently. The variation offers the speaker a choice of ways of expression in different ways.

According to Jay (1992: 2-9) states that the use of dirty words is used comprehensively here to include categories such as 1) cursing, The intent of cursing is to invoke harm on another person through the use of certain words or phrases. Thus, the curse words obtain power to cause harm through physical and psychological punishments from the group consensus. 2) profanity, Profanity is based on a religious distinction. To be profane means to be secular or behaving outside the customs of religious belief. To be profane means to be ignorant or intolerant of the guidelines of a particular religious order. 3) blasphemy, A blasphemy is an attack on religion or religious doctrine. Blasphemy aims directly at the church. Blasphemy obtains scorn via the power of the church, such that the greater the power of the institution of religion. 4) obscenity, Obscenity as used here is a legal term. The function of obscenity laws is to protect listeners. To call a word obscene means that it cannot be used freely; it is subject to restriction; and to use such speech is to risk sanctioning from the courts. 5) vulgarity, vulgarity means the language of the common person, which is the unsophisticated, unsocialized, or under-educated. Vulgarity does not serve any particular need or function beyond the normal communication demands of the common human. 6) slang, Slang is a developing vocabulary in certain sub-groups (teenagers, musicians, soldiers, drug users, or athletes) for ease of communication. 7) epithets, Epithets are brief but forceful bursts of emotional language. They are powerful in presentation (loudness or duration), for example; joking. 8) insulting ethnic-racial slurs, Insults and slurs are verbal attacks on other people. These words are spoken to harm the other person by the word alone. Slurs may be racial, ethnic, or social in nature and may indicate the stereotyping or prejudice of the speaker. 9) scatology, Scatology refers to words related to feces and elimination. Scatological references are offensive due to their association with disgusting items.

Then, there are psychological, social and linguistic motives for the use of taboo words. Jay (1992: 63) in his research states that there are five motivational of using taboo words, they are 1) Anger and/or frustration 2) Descriptive-Evaluative, 3) joking, 4) Surprise and 5) Sarcastic Irony or Insults.

In the book *dirty Japanese*, dirty words in Japanese can be seen from the lexical and grammatical form. The lexical form of dirty words in Japanese is usually related to the election word. For example, the use of nouns such as *kuso*, *yaro* etc. Pronouns such as *ore*, *omae*, *omaera* etc. The adjectives such as *baka*, *aho*, *temee*, *usee* etc. Generally related to Nine things. (Tomisaka, 1997: 49) That is howdy Japanese, friendly Japanese, Japanese party, Japanese body, horny Japanese, Japanese angry, poppy Japanese, sporty Japanese, and hungry Japanese. (Fargo, 2007: 2)

## Research Method

Methodology used is descriptive qualitative. This methodology describes the situation or the object of the research which is conducted based on the empirical facts and is comprehended to solve the problems by populating the data, organizing and

classifying the data and presenting the result of data analysis (Brooke, 2010: 115). The data in this research is the dirty word contained in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* comic vol. 1 volume 1. The method of data analysis calculation used a method suggested by Halliday and Hasan (1976: 201) is the total of interferences form divided into the total of all dirty word and multiplied by one hundred percent.

The technique of collecting the data used in this research are jot down and sorting techniques (Sudaryanto, 2015: 135). These two techniques used to jot down and sort the form of dirty word of Japanese language. Data analysis technique has been conducted into three stages: data condensation, data presentation and verification (Miles, Huberman and Saldana, 2014: 14).

The method used in presenting the result of data analysis in this research is informal method. According to Sudaryanto (201: 144) the method of informal presentation is the formulation with ordinary words, meaning to explain the analysis by using words and sentences in the form of discourse.

## **Discussion**

*Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* is an manga serial written and illustrated by Miki Yoshikawa. This manga started as a short story divided into three parts which then developed into a serial and featured in Kodansha's Weekly *Shonen Magazine* on October 18<sup>th</sup> 2006. This manga completed its last feature on May 11<sup>th</sup> 2011 with the total of 211 chapters. This manga has also been published in Mandarin and English by a Singapore publisher *Chuang Yi* with the title *Flunk Punk Rumble*. On February 24<sup>th</sup> 2010, they have released 9 chapters in mandarin in three in English.

*Yankee* is used to address bad or naughty students in Japan, while *Megane* is used to address bookworm girl student who wears spectacles and braided hair. This manga tells about a *yankee* boy named Shinagawa Daichi who hates his senior high school's life. Then there is a girl, who is a class monitor and keeps bothering Shinagawa. Shinagawa was confused at first why that girl keeps bothering him until he finds the reason. Behind her bookworm and innocent look, she is not that smart and used to be a rebellious girl in her previous school. Adachi then decided to change her look and tried to achieve her dream becoming the best class monitor. She decided to help Shinagawa to make him not repeating the same mistakes she had committed in the past.

From the results of data analysis, has found the form of dirty words in the Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* Vol. 1 comic amounted to 73 words. Consists of 29 word slang, 2 word crusing, 7 word obscenity, 20 word epihets and 15 word scatology. in other words 9.5% of obscenity, 40% of slang, 3% crusing, 27% of epithets, and 20.5% of scatology.

The following table is the form of dirty words found in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* Vol. 1 comic.

Table 1. The form of dirty words in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* Vol. 1 comic

No	Categories	Percentage	Word	Mean
1	Slang	40%	- 俺 ( <i>Ore</i> ) - おまえ ( <i>Omae</i> ) - おまえら ( <i>Omaera</i> ) - こいつ ( <i>Koitsu</i> ) - あいつ ( <i>Aitsu</i> ) - 奴 ( <i>Yatsu</i> )	- I (special form for boy) - you (special form for boy) - you guys (special form) - This person (special form) - that person (special form) - guy (special form)
2	Crusing	3%	- ブツ殺してるところだ！！ ( <i>Butsukoroshiteru tokoro da!</i> ) - 死ね！ ( <i>Shine!</i> )	- you would have killed now! - You are dead!
3	Obscenity	9,5%	- ファック ( <i>Fakku</i> ) - ヘンタイ ( <i>Hentai</i> )	- Fuck - Nasty
4	Epithets	27%	- バカだぜ！ ( <i>Baka da ze!</i> ) - アホか ( <i>Aho ka</i> ) - テメェ！！ ( <i>Teme-!</i> ) - うっせッ！ ( <i>Usse-!</i> ) - うざけんな！ ( <i>Uzakenna!</i> ) - ビビッてじゃねえ！ ( <i>Bibittejyane!</i> ) - やろう！ ( <i>Yarou!</i> )	- idiot/Fool - idiot/Fool - bastard! - You annoying! - dont mess around - you coward?!! - bastard(rascal)
5	Scatology	20,5%	クソ ( <i>Kuso</i> )	Shitt, dammit

Furthermore, several sentences in which there are dirty words representing each category will be analyzed.

(1) クソ。何で俺がこんな所でコソコソしてんだ。。

まさか、ここまで追ってきやしねーだろ

社会科、見学だア！？

誰がいくかつーの！！

*Kuso.. Nande ore ga kon'na tokorode kosokoso shite nda..*

*Masaka, koko made otte kiyashi ne-daro shakai-ka, kengakuda a! ? dare ga ikunkattsuno!!*

shitt... why do I have to sneak on this place?

Its impossible for her to find me here, isn't it? Social study and study tour?

Who want to go there?! (Yoshikawa, 2011: 1)

From the above sentence example seen the use of dirty word *kuso* and pronoun *ore*. *Kuso* has a basic meaning of feces, therefore *kuso* word included in the category of scatology. In accordance with the Jay (1997) that scatology refers to words relating to feces and elimination. Then the word *ore* is a pronoun which is 'I.' This word is a special form that boys use in intimate situations. Therefore *ore* is also a slang word according to the opinion of fargo (2007) that the use of special pronoun is also one form of dirty words.

(2) うるせーぞ。メガネいいかげんにしろ！

*Useezo.m megane iikagen ni shiro!*

Shut up, four eyes! Quit messing with me already (Yoshikawa, 2011: 13)

- (3) こいつ。。ブツ殺してるところだ!!

*Koitsu.. butsukoroshiteru tokoro da!!*

If she weren't a girl i dedinitely have killed her by now!! (Yoshikawa, 2011: 14)

Examples of sentences (2) show the use of dirty word *uruse* and sentence (3) there is a dirty word in the form of the use of *koitsu* pronouns and *butsukosroshiteru* word. The word *uruse* in sentence (2) means 'Shut up,' therefore the word *uruse* belongs to the Epithets category because it intends to express anger and emotion in accordance with the Jay (1997). Then in sentence (3) *koitsu* means 'this person,' which replaces the word with the same meaning of 'kono hito'. This word is a special form used in intimate situations. Therefore, *ore* is also a slang word according to the fargo (2007) that the use of special pronoun is also one form of dirty words. then the word *butsukosroshiteru* means 'killed,' is a phrase condemning someone to be included in the crusing category.

- (4) アホかテメエ!! んなダリィことできつかよ!!

*Aho ka teme!! nna dariikotodekikkayo!!*

Are you fool bastard!! I ain't going to such a think!! (Yoshikawa, 2011: 46)

Examples of the above sentence shows the use of dirty word *aho* and *teme*. *Aho* means 'stupid or idiot' and *teme* means 'bastard', so the word *aho* and *teme* are included in the Epithets category. In accordance with Jay (1997) that Epithets refers to words related to emotion and short anger that intend mocking calls.

- (5) いらねーよ。そんなダッセーの。誰が着るか

*Irane-yo. Sonna dassee no, dare ga kiru ka.*

Don't need it! Who the hell would wear primitive that one? (Yoshikawa, 2011: 53)

- (6) テメー「ファック」ってどういうことだ!?

*Temee (fakku) tte dou iu koto da ?!*

You bastard! What the hell do you mean 'fuck'? (Yoshikawa, 2011: 120)

- (7) クソ。千葉のやろう。。。

*Kuso. chiba no yarou...*

Shitt, bastard(rascal) of you Chiba! (Yoshikawa, 2011: 182)

Sentence (5) has a dirty word '*dassee*,' whose meaning is primitive or plebeian. This word is pronounced as an expression of angry emotion explaining the state of an object in the form of a shirt. Therefore this word belongs to the Epithets category. Sentence (6) has the word '*fakku*' which means 'fuck'. The word *fakku* belongs to the Obscenity category because it is related to obscene and negligent said. This is in accordance with the opinion of Jay (1997) that obscenity as used here is a legal term. The function of obscenity laws is to protect listeners. To call a word obscene means that it cannot be used freely; it is subject to restriction; and to use such speech is to

risk sanctioning from the courts. Then sentence (7) there is a word *yarou* which means 'bastard' which is also included in the Epithets category.

## Conclusions

The conclusion of this research has founded the form of dirty words in the category obscenity, slang, crusing, epithets, and scatology in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* Vol. 1 comic. In obscenity category there are *fakku* and *hentai*, the slang categories are *ore*, *omae*, *omaera*, *koitsu*, *aitsu* and *Yatsu*. The crusing category is, *butsukoroshiteru* and *shine*. The epithets category is, *baka*, *aho*, *teme*, *usse*, *uzakenna*, *bibittejyane*, *yarou*. Categorical scatology is *kuso*.

Percentage of used dirty word in comics are 9,5% of obscenity, 40% of slang, 3% crusing, 27% of epithets, and 20,5% of scatology. This shows that slang and Epithets are the most used in Miki Yoshikawa's *Yanki-kun to Megane-chan* Volume 1 comic.

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