

THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS ON TABOO WORDS IN HOKKIEN MEDAN AND ENGLISH

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ABSTRACT

Using descriptive qualitative approach, this study describes taboo words in English and Hokkien. This study aims to investigate taboo words in Hokkien and English based on Wardhaugh theory and to figure out the similarities and dissimilarities of taboo words by using contrastive analysis. There are two sources of data, namely: the transcript of the interview and the observation for Hokkien and movie script for English. The result shows there are similarities and dissimilarities between English and Hokkien Dialect. There are six classifications in English and Hokkien Dialect. While in Hokkien Dialect there is one classification of taboo that is not contained in Wardhaugh theory. In addition, there are two additional classifications. The authors suggest further researcher to discuss taboo in other languages.

Keyword: Taboo, Contractive, Hokkien, English, Dialect.

INTRODUCTION

Taboo is used by every speaker from every language. It can be found in spoken and written form. Taboo words can be found in books, movies, television shows, song lyrics, and even animated shows (Trudgill, 2009). Every culture has taboo behaviors that should not be carried out and taboo language that should not be expressed (Fairman, 2009). An example can be seen in the New Guinean culture of South Africa, where a woman is forbidden to call her father-in-law's name by her first name or pronounce one of the syllables of her name. If she violates this rule, she will face legal consequences in the applicable society (Allan et al, 2006). Therefore, actions that are considered taboo can be taboo words.

Geographical factors cause differences in the way of thinking and culture of the people in western and eastern regions. These

differences include beliefs, norms as well as grammatical language.

Previous study, using taboo in soap operas allows speakers or consumers to talk about gender and religious norms (Yalkin & Veer, 2018). It means taboo enables speaker to discuss a topic. Every language has taboo words. This study discussed taboo in Hokkien and English languages. It contributes to the exploration of the types of taboo, functions of taboo, and motives for using taboo.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Types of Taboo

The type of taboo word expressed by Wardhaugh (2006) in his book entitled *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics* where taboo words are classified into six parts, namely sex, death, excretions, bodily functions, religious matters, and animals.

Sex

The word "Sex" comes from Latin, which was revealed to be the old French "sexe". The use of "sex" can be traced to the mid-civilizations around 1150-1500 AD. According to Merriam-Webster (2022), sex is the two main forms of all species. What distinguishes males and females is based on the structure of their organs. Language related to sex can be taboo. This is because the terminological definition of sex is lust. Lust is the driving force that every sweet possesses through instinct. Every human being, both men and women, possesses this instinct to ensure the survival of humanity (Mushlihin, 2015). For example fuck, sex.

Bodily Functions

Related to anatomy and a person's body functions. The anatomy of the body is commonly used in cursing. Body parts that are often poured out in taboo language are usually more related to sexual activity (Wijana and Rohmadi, 2007). For example: penis, vagina, asshole.

The body functions are also often used in cursing and it is activities carried out by body organs. It usually refers to sexual activity, for example: suck, handjob, blowjob.

Animals

It is used to express cursing directly which refers to the properties of targeted individual. Only certain traits of an animal that have similarities with individuals are subjected to cursing. Of course, not all animal names can be used to be a means of cursing in the use of language (Wijana dan Rohmadi, 2007). For example pussy, bitch, chicken.

Excretion

The process of using metabolic substances left over from the body. Such discharge comes from the organs of the body. The use of word is not commonly used for cursing because the reference is related to ugliness. For example: shit

Death

It is the process of cessation of all biological functions of the body. The functional cessation of body organs can occur in all organisms of living beings. Death is a threat in human life to those who are not ready to accept death. The fear of death is the basis of taboo language on which talk of death is prohibited. It is caused because it has a frightening effect on the listeners (Tegi,2018). For example: dead, die.

Religions

A belief held by a group of people. There are many different religions with different sets of beliefs. The belief includes the world and people, the way they were created, and the purpose for which they were created (Tegi,2018). About that, it also contains religious elements and terms such as profane, secular, or indifferent attitudes that also include profanity / filthy words that are said supposed to be glorified. Examples: hell, goddamn, Jesus Christ. (Jay 2009 and Batistella 2005).

Functions of Taboo Words

People who used taboo words must have a reason behind it. (Wardhaugh (2006) states there are 4 functions of taboo words.

a. To Draw Attention to Oneself

People use taboo word to gain attention. People tends to hear strong language usage. Strong connotation can stimulate an instant reaction from the listener (Mc

Guire, 1973). Hence, using strong words could attract more attention from people.

b. To Show Contempt

The use of taboo words in a conversation between people may indicate contempt. Contempt is defined as the belief that something or someone has no worth and deserves no respect at all (Oxford Learner's Dictionaries, 2022). Hence, people try to show contempt by using taboo words, the listener would be insulted by uttered word from the speaker which could offend their pride.

c. To be Provocative

Using taboo word may give intention to provoke people. It could draw a certain response from the listener such as anger or violation. Obscenity often used to provoke someone because it was found that verbal aggression to be most effective method for inciting violence (Mc Guire, 1973). Therefore, using taboo word in intention to provoke people could be considered successful if there is feedback from the listener.

d. To Mock Authority

People are accustomed to expressing their dissatisfaction with authority by using forbidden words. Verbal obscenity conveys a strong dislike for society's rules, as well as a rebellion against power as impertinence for things considered sacred (Mc Guire, 1973). Therefore, people use taboo words to express disappointment and disbelief about the reality that differs from the expectation or governmental stuff.

Motive of using Taboo Words

There are psychological, social and linguistic factors that trigger the motive of using taboo word. In Jay's (2009) state every life is full of mysteries, and that person can suddenly feel both upset and angry. In

everyday speech, each individual must have a motive for a wide variety of choices of words before they are expressed. Therefore, an individual has a motive for using taboo word in a conversation. The motive for the use of taboo word can be seen from the context in a conversation. According to Jay (1992) there are 5 factors that encourage a person to use taboo words:

a. Anger and Frustrations

Kind of emotion that difficult to distinguish from taboo words is anger and frustration. For example, when a boy is about to bring a basketball into the net and someone blocks it, he responds by saying "what the fuck". So, this word fuck is used to express anger and frustration.

b. Descriptive – Evaluative

Descriptive-evaluative is used to show how the speaker explains the surrounding objects or events connotatively or denotatively. "This game sucks," for example, is an assessment of a baseball game, whereas "my sneakers are shitty" is a denotative description after a speaker steps in dog poop. The term taboo also emphasizes descriptions, such as "he beat the hell out of him," indicating the level of physical energy used in fights

c. Joking

Jokes in taboo word are used in informal situations. The addition of obscenities that are included in jokes and stories to make them funnier and interesting. Usually the words used are dick, gay and penis. Most of the uses of taboo language in jokes are those related to body parts or processes related to sexual behavior.

a. Surprise

Reactions to loss, achievement and unexpected behavior. This usage is typical of swearing in general involving

religious terms such as "Oh my God!" or "Jesus Christ."

e. Sarcastic Irony or Insults

It involves derogatory terms and descriptions, for example, "you fag, scum face". Rather than expressing the anger of contempt speakers serves to show the quality that the target does not want.

RESEARCH METHOD

This study applied descriptive qualitative approach and contrastive analysis. The data are taken from observing and interviewing five Hokkianesse. While English data will be taken from Novel entitled *IDIOT Life Stories* from the creator of *HELP HELEN SMASH* by Laura Clery. Movie Script *Sex Education Episode One* by Laurie Nunn and *Straight Outta Compton* by S. Leigh Savidge and Alan Wenkus and Andrea Berloff.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The Classification of Taboo Word in English

According (Wardhaugh, 2006) taboo words can be divided into six classifications.

In Association with Sex

Taboo words related to sex depends on the factors that influence the occurrence of mentions of such words namely the situation, the level of familiarity of the speaker and others. Here is a taboo words in English related to sex.

a. Fuck

One of the most commonly used taboo words is "fuck". According to the Oxford Learners Dictionary, fuck has the definition of "to have sex with somebody". This word has an idiom as a swear word that can be said to be quite rude and offensive which is usually used to express anger, horror, or surprise. This can be found in conversations by young

people in English conversations. Here are some examples that I present.

"Two teenagers fuck in near-silence amongst the scrunched-up sheets of a single bed." (Nunn 2019:1)

The sentence uses the word taboo fuck. It has meaning to have sexual intercourse. Therefore, the motive for the use of this word is to describe sexual intercourse.

"I kept driving. And I noticed him. The biker. Following us. And he wasn't just any cyclist, this guy was the real deal, decked out in helmet, dark shades, and jacket, and he looked fucking mad. He sped up." (Clery 2019: 16)

The speaker uses the taboo word fucking which comes from the word fuck. It has the meaning of "very angry". Therefore, the motive for the use of this language is to intensify the following word, mad.

"We would write each other the most fucked up notes we could think of to see who could get a bigger rise out of the other person." (Clery 2019: 5)

The sentence uses the word taboo fucked. It has the meaning of "very chaotic". However, motive for using this word is to intensify the following word, notes.

"Otis: We have hardly any classes together

Eric: Fuck that." (Nun 2019:11)

The sentence uses the word taboo fuck. It has the meaning of "I don't care". The motive for using this word is to corroborate the word "I don't care".

BUS DRIVER: Hey what's going on? – O.G. BLOOD: Shut the fuck up, Blood! (Addresses the whole bus) You young muthafuckas wanna die today?! (Savidge and Berloff 2015: 9)

The sentence uses the word taboo fuck. It has the meaning of "shut up". The motive for using this word is to corroborate the word "shut up".

b. Motherfucker

One of the most commonly used taboo words is motherfucker. This can be found in conversations by young people in English conversations, here are some examples that the researcher found:

JERRY: Look, if what I've done is so illegal, why have I never been sued? I'm such a thief, such a liar, such a motherfucker, how come nobody's come to collect? This is business. This is how it works. It's not always pretty, but all of it, everything I've put into this company, my whole LIFE for all these years, it's for you, Eric. (Savidge and Berloff 2015:)

The sentence uses the word taboo motherfucker. It is to signify the meaning of "bastard". The motive for the use of this language is self-deprecation.

In Association with Body Functions

The use of taboo word is related to the functions of the body, in it includes the members or organs of the body and the functions of those organs of the body. This taboo word is divided into 2 parts, namely the anatomy of the body and the anatomical functions of the body.

Human Anatomy

The word taboo related to the anatomy of the body is a word that describes a part or organ of a human body. Here are examples of taboo words in English related to the anatomy of the body:

a. Penis

This word is used in conversations in the field of biology, but in conversation in English, it is also often found. Here is an example of its use below.

“MAEVE: Was that really your mum?

Otis nods, mortified. Maeve sits beside him.

MAEVE: It could be a lot worse. She could have been giving head to an actual penis. Otis can't help but smile.

OTIS: I want to die.” (Nunn 2019:32)

The sentence uses the word taboo penis which means "male genitalia". The use of the word penis itself is a term used in medical field. But in the conversation above, it is not used in medical term but as general term. The motive of using the word is for sexual activities.

b. Dick

This type of word that is often found in the conversations of young people. This word has the same meaning that means "penis". But in its use it is more indicative of the sexual direction. Here is an example of its use in a conversation.

OTIS: Why would I help you? I know you sent that video around.

ADAM: Please, my dick feels like it's going to explode. And not in a good way. I think it might be dying. You have to help me.

OTIS: Not my problem. (Nunn 2019: 34)

The sentence uses the word taboo dick. It refers to the meaning of male genitalia. Speakers use the word dick to express a man's reproductive apparatus more towards sexual than biological.

c. Vagina

This word is a word used in conversations in medical field. It is often found in general usage. Here the researcher gives an example of its use in the following sentence.

“Otis and Maeve stare down at a diagram of a cross-section of a vagina. Next to each anatomical part is a blank line.” (Nunn 2019:30)

The sentence uses the word taboo vagina means "female genitalia". The motive for using this word is to provide education.

On the other hand, this word can also be taboo if used in sexual context as attached to the example below.

MAEVE: The one on the left has never been in a lesbian relationship before. She's terrified of her new girlfriend's vagina. (Nunn 2019:45-46)

The sentence uses the word taboo vagina which means "private part of woman" but in this context, its used with sexual motives.

d. Asshole

It is one of the words often used in English conversation. Here is an example of its use below.

'We were great kids. But in this particular instance, Jack saw this really serious-looking cyclist we were passing and chose to yell, "GET OFF THE ROAD ASSHOLE!"' (Clery 2019:16)

The sentence uses the word taboo asshole. It means incompetent person. The motive for using this word is to make people feel irritated and satirical.

Body Functions

Body functions are part of the human body. Here are examples of taboo words in English related to body functions:

a. Suck

Taboo word suck can be interpreted to be sucking, the usage of word taboo suck is usually followed by other nouns for example we can see as below:

THE CROWD: DOPE MAN PLEASE CAN I HAVE ANOTHER HIT???

CUBE: The Dopeman said Cluck I don't give a shit, if your girl kneels down –

THE CROWD: AND SUCKS MY DICK!!! with each other, like, Oh my

God, this is sick! . (Savidge and Berloff 2015:)

The sentence uses the word taboo suck and dick. It is used to give insult.

On the other hand, using taboo word suck can have other meanings depending on the motives of the speaker. It can be seen from the following example:

"I got back to Downers Grove expecting things to be the same as when I left. It still looked the same for sure—but all my friends were gone. Maggie was at Northwestern, and Jack was in Wisconsin at St. Norbert. They were all doing great things and making career moves, and I was so happy for them! But for me it sucked." (Clery 2019:45)

The sentence uses the word taboo sucked. It has the motive of emphasizing listener felt upset or annoyed.

In Association with Animals

Usage of taboo word related to animals used to insult a person or compare a person with an animal is spoken both in shape, nature, and character. Here are taboo words in English related to animals.

a. Bullshit

The word bullshit consists of the words "bull" and "shit" which mean "bull" and "feces or feces". It is often found in conversations in English speaking society but the meaning of the word isn't the same meaning as it stated, as we can see from the example below:

"I told her about how Damon would lose his mind if I said the wrong thing or talked to anyone on the street. I told her about how he would grab me so hard that I would bruise. About how he thought he owned me. Only she knew the full extent of Damon's bullshit." (Clery 2019: 71)

The sentence uses the word taboo bullshit. It is used to explain "nonsense".

The speaker explains Damon's explanation is nonsense.

b. Chick

Chick is an offensive taboo word that means "young woman". The usage of word taboo in English can be seen in the following example:

JERRY: (concerned) Another one called-
- said she was pregnant by you too. Eric,
you gotta slow down. You can't fuck'em
all...

EAZY: Yeah, I know. (Deep breathe) All
these chicks want is money. If I was
broke, they're wouldn't even be calling.
(Savidge and Berloff 2015: 53)

"Wine is hard to get out! I thought that it
was normal for meetings to be that short.
But really they had just wanted this crazy
chick to get the fuck out of their offices
without causing a disturbance." (Clery
2019: 54)

The sentences use the word taboo chick is
used to give a rough swear word that
equates a woman to an animal. The usage
of this word is to degrade women.

c. Pussy

This word literally means "female cat". It
is often found in conversation. The word
itself has a different meaning. Here is an
example

"TONE: Why you so ruthless, Eric,
damn! You don't want nothin' to drink?
What you want -- (re: the girls) -- you
want some pussy?" (Savidge and Berloff
2015:2)

"LONZO: Gonna make sure nothin's
poppin' off outside. Keep them fat asses
shakin'. None of that rap bullshit, you
hear? I want people thinkin' 'bout pussy
not pistols. (then) And Yella, I saw you
talkin to my lady. Keep your fuckin hands

to yourself." (Savidge and Berloff 2015:
16)

The sentence uses the word taboo pussy.
The word has the meaning of "private part
of women". The usage of this word itself
is often used for sexual-related
expressions.

d. Cock

This word has meaning "rooster", but it
taboo word if it is used in a sexual
context. This can be seen in the following
example.

AIMEE: I don't know what I'm doing
wrong.

MAEVE: Maybe try upping the dirty talk.
You know, tell him he's got a big cock.
Guys love that shit. (Nunn 2019: 17)

The sentence uses the word taboo cock. It
has meaning of rooster. The usage of
word cock is a slang word of male
reproductive apparatus.

e. Bitch

This word has the meaning female dog
and it becomes taboo if it is said to a
person. The different meaning from the
original meaning of the word can be seen
from the following example.

"“Jack...” I whispered, trying to stay
calm.’

“What?” Jack looked confused, then
turned around and immediately shrank
with fear. “DRIVE, BITCH, DRIVE!””
(Clery 2019:16)

The sentence uses the word taboo bitch It
has motive to offend the interlocutor. In
the above conversation, the speaker uses
this word to express surprise.

In Association with Death

Death is the end of life, and the use of the
word taboo related to a death can be a threat
that has a great effect on the listener because

it can have a frightening effect on the listener. Here are some examples of taboo words in English related to death.

a. Dead

The words that often used in the conversation of young people. Here is an example of using the word.

“A chair is placed against the door of Eric’s messy room. He looks in a mirror, surrounded by cosmetics. He applies purple eye shadow as a DIY contouring video plays on his laptop. A text message from Otis: ‘YES, BUT TOMORROW I’M DEAD.’” (Nunn 2019: 25)

The sentences use the word taboo dead. This taboo word has the meaning of death. But in this context it is not a true meaning but rather has a figurative meaning.

b. Damn

One of the taboo word that are often used in English conversation. This is often encountered in various conversations. Here is an example of using the word.

“He pulls out a sad little wad of bills, waves it in her face. Quick as lightning, she SNATCHES it away from him – VERA: Fifty dollars? Damn, you a billionaire!” (Savidge and Berloff 2015: 5)

The sentences use the word taboo damn. Speakers use to describe surprised expressions, not as a swear word.

“During my senior year, when all my friends started getting into college and making plans for their futures, Mrs. Heiten took a look at my grades. She approached me, very angry. “Damn it, Laura. You fucked yourself out of 90 percent of the colleges in the country. And is that weed I smell in your purse?” (Clery 2019: 25-26). The sentences use the word taboo damn. It has meaning of "unlucky" which expresses the sense of

anger of its speakers. The usage this word is to give emphasis the listener.

In Association with Excretions

The usage the taboo word in English related to something that is excreted by the functioning of body organs as well as sexual organs from the body. Here is an example of a taboo word related to excretion, shit.

The word taboo shit is a taboo word which means feces. The use of the word shit with the motive of saying can be seen from the following example.

“A moment of silence and then Maggie smiled at me with this devilish grin. I looked at her, confused. “What?” I whispered. And then . . . I felt it. Something soft and mushy in my hand. I lifted my hand out of the water— and screamed!

It was Maggie’s shit. She had shit in the Jacuzzi. AND THE SHIT WAS IN MY HAND.

I was so fucking shocked that I threw the shit as hard as I could, hopped out of the Jacuzzi, and jumped into the pool” (Clery 2019: 7)

The sentences use the word taboo shit means dirt. Thus, the usage of the word taboo shit has the same meaning as it is.

On the other hand, the use of the word shit can have other meanings as shown in the following example:

“A bucket pulls up in front of a shitty-looking BROWN HOUSE with ugly bars on the windows and doors. A rusted swing-set leans sideways on the dirt/grass they call a front lawn.” (Savidge and Berloff 2015: 1)

The sentences use the word taboo shitty. The word is derived from the root word shit. The usage of word shitty acts as an expression that the object being maximized looks very bad.

“There was one night that Damon was painting a shitty nude portrait of me as we guzzled wine. We did this a lot, actually. Our tiny studio apartment was covered in weird, o-putting paintings of me.” (Clery 2019:54)

The sentences use the word taboo shitty. The word is derived from the root word shit which means dirt. In both sentences above, the use of the word shitty itself in this case, as an expression that the object being maximized looks very bad.

Furthermore, when the taboo word shit is used by speakers with different motivations, it takes on a new meaning. As an example, consider the following sentence:

“Her FBI agent dad would NOT be cool about this, to say the least. “Oh SHIT,” we both muttered to each other, finally using the word correctly!” (Clery 2019: 6)

The sentences use the word taboo shit. The meaning of shit here can be interpreted as a spontaneous cry that is rude and has the same meaning as "oh no".

On the other hand, the use of shit refers to irritability. It can be seen from the following example:

JEAN: Morning darling. Coffee?
Otis shakes his head. Jean checks her watch.
JEAN: Shit, shit, shit, my first clients are arriving in fifteen and I haven't re-read their notes. It's going to be one of those days.
OTIS: Late night? (Nunn 2019:1)

From the example above, it can be concluded that usage of taboo word related to excretion not only has a literal meaning but has other meanings according to the motives and conditions of the speaker, namely describing the startled.

In Association with Religion

Usage of word taboo related to religion is often expressed in some situations whether intentionally or unintentionally. Here are some examples of taboo language in English related to religion:

a. Jesus Christ

This word is actually not taboo if it is said in a religious environment. The reason why this word can be included in the word taboo can be seen from the context of the use and motives of the speaker. It can be seen from the following example. “Look at this one!” I turned the gooeey pug around to face Stephen.

“JESUS!” Stephen startled at the sight of him. He composed himself and asked, “Are you sure that is a dog?” (Clery 2019: 169)

The sentences use the word taboo Jesus. Jesus used to emphasize that Stephen is shocked and startled.

Rudolf stared at me and sighed. “Jesus Christ, Laura, I leave you for two weeks and this is what you do.”” (Clery 2019: 92)

The sentences use the word taboo Jesus Christ, but the word is not used to prey on the creator, but to express a sense of surprise. So, the motive for the use of this word taboo is because of "surprise"

b. Goddamn

The word taboo comes from the words god and damn. If interpreted, it has a similar meaning to the creator, but in its use, the speaker has a different motive from the meaning listed in the word. An example of this can be seen in the excerpt below.

Suge: Doc shouldn't even be alive. He got thrown from the car-- hit a tree.

Dre: Goddamn. Is he paralyzed?

Suge: Nah. His throat got crushed. Doctor said he'll never talk right again. (Savidge and Berloff 2015:28)

The sentences use the word taboo goddamn. It is not used to say the name of the creator negatively, but rather an expression of surprise so that the speaker expresses the word.

c. God

The use of the word god is actually not taboo if it is said in an appropriate context or said in a religious context. Here is an example of using the word god that is not taboo:

The usage of the word god can be taboo if used outside religious context. It can be seen from the following example:

"I don't know what to do! Oh my God, oh my God—my boyfriend just left me! He just drove away with my ID and all my money and everything I own!" I was bawling and hyperventilating." (Clery 2019:23)

The sentences use the word taboo god. Usage of word taboo does not refer to god's calling in religion, but rather an expression of panic and worry.

The Classification of Taboo Words in Hokkien Dialect

Taboo in Hokkien has existed since ancient times. Many prohibitions and taboos are prohibited in Hokkien cultural customs. In Hokkien culture, there are also many taboos that are prohibited ranging from taboo actions to words in everyday speech that are inappropriate to speak. Here is the classification of taboo word in the Hokkien dialect.

In Association with Sex

Taboo words related to sex are those related to intimate activities spoken by speaker.

Usage of word Kàn has the meaning of "to fuck". The use of this word is often used by Hokkienese. It can be seen from the example below:

"Khan moto bo iong bak ciu, sisua lai long, khi ho lang kàn lu, kau ceng kia" (Richard, May 2022)

Translation: "You ride a motorbike without using your eyes to see? Random crash, you bastard."

The sentences use the word taboo Kàn which means "to fuck". The sentences above, speaker intention to scold the listener.

"lu ai tiok kàn yo?" (Christine, May 2022)

Translation: You want me to get angry?

The sentences use the word taboo kàn is "fuck". The usage of word has a meaning "mad".

In Association with Body Function

Word related to bodily functions is language that offends parts of the human body. Every human part has its own function.

Human Anatomy

1. Lān

This words is often found in conversation by Hokkienese. The word Lān means "men's reproductive system". Usage of this word is also frequently combined with the addition of other words such as the example below.

"Wa lang khan cia, macet, tu than angkot, tiba-tiba ciak walang kiri lo. "lān la"." (Ricardo, May 2022)

Translation: "We drive a car, it's a traffic jam, then we meet public transportation (angkot), suddenly slip through from our left. "lān la"

The sentences use the word taboo lān. The word means to express the sense of annoyance and anger of the speaker.

Usage of taboo word can also be combined with other words to form new

words that still have a taboo meaning for example

“eh lai lai wala khua, hamang e lān hut khak toa kai” (Christine, May 2022)

Translation: come here, let’s see whose balls are bigger

The sentences use the word taboo lan followed by hut. When those words are combined it would be lan huts referring to testicles. The motive of the speaker is to say this is a joke.

2. Chi-bai

It is often found in the conversations of Hokkienesse. The word chi-bai means "women's reproductive system". Its often use to combine with other words as in the example below

“Chao chi-bai, tak moto bo iong bak ciu.” (Celvany,2022)

Translation: Smelly cunt, ride a motorbike didn’t use eye

The sentences use the word taboo is “chao chi-bai”. This word chi-bai means “women’s reproductive system” and chao “smelly” which means “smelly”. Usage of this word is to insult and humiliate people when they are furious.

On the other hand, usage of word taboo can have different meaning depending on the context in which it is used.

“Jadi kan saya sudah rem, eh tiba-tiba nongol. Jadi aku sudah tidak bilang, tiba-tiba teman bilang “chi bai lu”. kan palak, jadi saya balas, “e mak lu yang cibai” (Ricardo, May 2022)

Translation: “So, I tried to stop saying it, but sometimes my friends said to me, ‘you cunt’, so I got triggered, then replied to him “you motherfucker’.

From the example above, usage of taboo word found is chibai. It has a meaning “women’s reproductive system”. However, the context it is used to greet a

close friend. And speaker’s motive is to joke.

“obin ochau be theng, nyagakak chibai bin. Lu be kahk cio bin tampok yo? Kalau u su ma e kak walang kong lo” (Richard, May 2022)

Translation: Your face always looks annoyed, like pussy face, can’t you make more friendly face? If you have problems, you can talk to us)

The sentences use the word taboo chibai. It is used to describe the sour look on the face.

“Emai chee-bai, ane ku bo tu tan yau, to iyen tao lu” (Ricardo, May 2022)

Translation: You bastard, how long have it been? You look good.)

The sentences use the word taboo chibai. It is shown that the speaker uses taboo word to his close friends. Both sides are not offended, because the listener has known the intention of the speaker is joking.

3. Kha-cheng

It is often found in the conversations of Hokkienesse. Kha-cheng has the meaning of "buttocks". Usage of this word is combined with the addition of other words as in the following example.

“My friend and I asked me to hangout with them

“Ward ai khi ciak bo?”

“yok lo, tapi w ciak yau a.”

then I said to him “kha-cheng la kak lu.”” (Ricardo, May 2022)

Translation: “Ward, wanna grab a bite?”

“Let's go. but I already ate.”

The sentences use the word taboo kah-cheng means “butt”. It has meaning of “nonsense”. The motive of the speaker saying the taboo word for joking.

Body Function

1. Khàm

The word “Khàm” has the meaning “suck”. This word is a slang word used to denote “felatio” in an intimate ridge. The use of this word is often used by young people who speak the Hokkien dialect. It can be seen from the following example. “Lu kong hamik ge... bo beng la... nyangkak lang khàm lān ane. Ciak mikia thun seng la, baru kong ua.” (Richard, May 2022)

Translation: “What are you saying? You’re mumbling as if you’re sucking someone dick. If you eat something, swallow it first then speak.

The sentences use the word taboo khàm lān. The word is divided into 2 words, namely khàm and lān. The word khàm is not a taboo if used in a general context. It is taboo due to intention in using word such as adding the words lan which has meaning “penis” jadi khàm lān means “suck a cock”. As a result, the use of this word is not demonstrated as it is, but rather to describe a parable by employing a taboo word.

In Association with Death

The use of the word “si” in Hokkien has many meanings, namely “four”, and “dead or die”. Using this words in Hokkien Dialect is to emphasized more sense of “dead/die”. An example can be seen from the example below:

Dulu pas SMA3 gitu, saya pernah berantem sama orang, ceritanya teman saya tonjok saya, masuk BP la, sesudah di urus-urus, saya bilang ke temen saya lo.

“Khi si hor lang phak lu”. Saya bilang, lalu dia balas.

“kalau w khi si ho lang phak, lu khi si ho kau tak.” (Ricardo, May 2022)

Translation:

Back when I was in Senior High School, I used to fight with people, the story is, my friend hit me. So we got into BP. After taking care of all the problem I said to my friend.

“You are dead hit by people”. I said, then he replied

“If I dead hit by people, then you are dead stomped by a dog”

The sentences use the word taboo “si” indicates the word “dead”. Usage of this word is to give order to listener to die immediately. The usage of this word is modified accordingly to explain that the speaker is furious.

In Association with Excretions

Usage of word “sai” has meaning “feces”. This word is often used by Hokiennesse. It can be seen from the following example:

“lu w ua niang kak sai” (Ricardo, May 2022)
Translation: “You’re talking shit”

The sentences use the word taboo "sai" is found in the above sentence. This word is to described as “feces” but in its use has the meaning of nonsense/ meaningless.

The use of such word can have different meanings as we can see from the example below:

“lu e bin niangkak sai ane” (Celvany, May 2022)

Translation: your face looks like shit.

The sentences use the word taboo sai means “feces”. In this context, the speaker uses taboo word to describe looks on the listener's face. Usage of this word has meaning of “rejecting fortune”.

Taboo words has different meaning depends on motives. As in the example below

“lu e bin niang kak sai” (Ricardo, May 2022)
Translation: “Your face looks shit”

The sentences use the word taboo sai means feces. Speaker’s motive is joking

because it is said depends on the closeness of friendship.

In Association with Animals

The reason why people use taboo words contains animal is to compare people to an animal. It contains vulgar word.

1. Kau

A: “emai cia, lu ciak kek kauceng la lu”

B: “emai cia, kauceng la lu” (Ricardo, May 2022)

But in both sentences, there are 2 different sentence meanings. The use of the first word refers to A comparing B's messy way of eating by equating him with an animal. Then B, replying to the word A uses the same word but has a different context, that is, the taboo words used has a brazen meaning.

“Lu Khan moto bo iong bak ciu, sisua lai long, khi ho lang kan lu, kau ceng kia” (Richard, May 2022)

Translation: “You ride a motorbike without keeping your eyes on the road? It's causing traffic accident, you son of a bitch”

The sentences use the word taboo kauceng. The use of this word is to interpret as "dog breeds". The speaker uses this word to insult a person with a animal. The motive of using this word is to insult and demean a person.

2. Tu

The use of the word "tu" has the meaning of "pig" the use of this word is often used by hokkiennesse. It can be seen from the example below:

“Ciak mikkia ane tham cuik si, niang kak lang empat ciak ane, bo khua pak lang dia boi gia ho. ciak kau nyankak tu, pantes lah lu e sengku nyankak thang.” (Richard, May 2022)

Translation: “Why do you have to eat so voraciously? Can't you see others who haven't eaten their food? You eat like a pig, that is why your body is so fat.”

The sentences use the word taboo tu. It means to compare the nature of the gluttony of a person who is equated with an animal.

In Association with Disability

The use of this word regrets the shortcomings of a person both physically and mentally. Here's an example

The use of the word "Xiào" has the meaning of "crazy" the use of this word is often used by young people who speak the hokkien dialect. It can be seen from the example below:

“Eh xiao cabao, lu kisi tui InNi? ai pe pe be mikia, tisi e?” I said

“Eh cibe, w be tui la, Covid kin ancu e tui le.” She replied. (Celvany, May 2022)

The sentences use the word taboo xiao mean "crazy". Speakers use this word to express a sense of closeness to the listener by using taboo word. The use of taboo word in this conversation does not cause problems because both parties understand each other.

In Association with Greetings

Usage of taboo word related to people's names is also often found in conversations by young people who speak Hokkien. Basically, within Chinese culture, a younger person is not allowed to call the name of an older person by name because it is very disrespectful and indicates lack of good manners. Therefore the use of people's names is taboo if it is said carelessly. Here is an example of a greeting used

- JieJie - Older Sister
- Koko - Older Brother
- Ai / Ii - Aunty
- Ciuciu - Uncle Family

acquaintance. The example above is a greeting word used in the presentation to someone who is more senior or older.

Taboo Words Similarities and Dissimilarities in English and Hokkien.

In Association with Sex

The words fuck and Kàn means an act of having intercourse.

Taboo word in English and Hokkien have noticeable difference where in English there are the words fuck and motherfucker. The word fuck in English can be combined with phrasal verb which has a different meaning after being used in a sentence under certain conditions. Examples: fuck me (used to express surprise), fuck around (to waste time by being a silly), fuck off (shove away), fucked up (to do or making a bad mistake), fuck with (to mess with someone in a way that makes them annoyed), motherfucker (express anger towards someone), fucked (to describe something), fucking (to intensify something). Therefore, usage of taboo word in English has many variations that can be combined with other words/suffixes that have different meanings depending on each user. In contrast, usage of Hokkien Dialect generally stands alone without being combined with other characters such as those found in English, likewise with its use where the language itself has only one meaning, namely "angry".

In Association with Body Functions

There are several words in both languages that have the same meaning, namely

- Penis, dick, and jiao means men's private parts,
- Vagina and chibai means women private part
- Asshole and khacheng means butt hole and
- Suck and kam means suck.

The first similarities are the words "Penis", "dick" and "lan". Both have meaning male reproductive part.

The difference is that usage of the word "penis" is more used in medical terms, while "dick" is more often used in everyday speech which gives a vulgar and abusive effect. On the other hand, in the Hokkien Dialect, the word "lan" is a basic word that means "male reproductive part". The use of this word is often used with its own characters and can also be supplemented with other characters so that it has various meanings, for example lan jiao "penis", and lan hut "balls".

The similarity of the motives for using both languages is to express anger, while the difference is that in English, it can be used to offend and humiliate a person. Another dissimilarity if the use is that in the Hokkien dialect it can be used for jokes.

The second taboo words used is "vagina" and "Chibai", where in English "vagina" is more often used in medical terms. On the other hand, in the Hokkien dialect, "chibai" is often used as a swear word to express emotions of annoyance or anger. In the Hokkien dialect, the use of the word is more pronounced to women to demean them. This is because this word is a very harsh word when compared to English. Therefore, the use of this word is very rarely used.

Similarities in the motives for the use of the two word cannot be found. On the other hand, the difference can be seen in English where the word "vagina" is pronounced in medical terms while in Hokkien dialect it is said in furious state and depends on closeness of friendship.

The last taboo words are "asshole" and "khacheng". The similarities of the two words are only the literal meaning. The difference is that in English it is often used with a different meaning than the actual one. The use of the word "asshole" in English can

be interpreted as "untrustworthy person". Whereas in the Hokkien dialect, "kha-cheng" has the meaning of "nonsense".

The similarity of motive is used for venting emotions. While the difference found is in the contexts it can be used, for example in the form of jokes.

Regarding body anatomy, the similarity found was "suck" and "kam" means "sucking". If used in a positive context, then both words can have a positive meaning, but if used in a negative context, it will give a negative impact and become taboo.

The dissimilarity in English used to describe annoyance to someone. For example, "sucks" and "you sucks" (you're useless). In Hokkien dialects usage of language is used as it mean. For example, "kam lan" which means "suck penis" but in its use it does not indicate action but is used as a parable.

The similarity of the two languages is used to make people feel disturbed. As for dissimilarity in English, it is used to insult someone while in the Hokkien dialect it is used to give a vulgar impression.

In Association with Animals

The similarity between these two words have meanings with negative elements. In addition, Motive using this word is to make fun of and humiliate people.

Overall, dissimilarity found in the taboo word in English have a negative element in it. For example, "bullshit" which means "nonsense". "Bitch" which means "slut", "Pussy" which means "private part of a woman", "cock" which means "private part of a man" and chick which means "young woman". Meanwhile, in the Hokkien dialect, usage of this taboo word is often used to compare visual characteristics and animal traits to a person, for example "tu" which has a large and fat body shape is revealed to someone to describe his body very

containing negative intentions as well." you" which is used to compare a person visually as well as in nature.

The similarity of the motive for using these two languages is to make fun of a person. While dissimilarity in Hokkien dialect because it is used to describe and in English it is used to degrade a person.

In Association with Death

Similarities in taboo word in English and Hokkien dialects have the same meaning, namely "dead" or "damn". Dissimilarity is that in English it has another meaning, namely "unlucky" while in the Hokkien dialect there is no other meaning than the actual meaning.

The similarity in the motives for using both languages is to vent anger and a sense of annoyance. While dissimilarity, in the Hokkien dialect it can be used for jokes.

In Association with Excretion

The similarity in the two languages mean "dirt".

The dissimilarity in English it has many meanings depending on the context of its use such as shitty (something that looks bad), or shit which is used as a response to surprise or nonsense. The word shit can be used as it mean but with a very rough context, while in Hokkien dialects, usage of the taboo word "sai" is used in swearing.

The similarity of motives in their use is expressed when a person is in a state of annoyance. While dissimilarity cannot be found in the two languages.

In Association with Religion

There is no taboo words are found in Hokkien dialect while there are some found in the English language. Usually, it is used to express surprise, outside the religion

context, while in Hokkien Dialect no taboo words related to religion were found.

In Association with Disabilities

There are no taboo words are found in the English language while there are some found in Hokkien dialect. In the Hokkien dialect, there is a use to imbue a person as well as jokes related to one's shortcomings both physically and mentally.

In Association with Greetings

There are no taboo words found in the English language while there are some found in Hokkien dialect. In Hokkien dialects, the use of the word greeting directly by using the name is strictly prohibited, especially since it is used to call on someone, who is more senior, therefore, there are several greeting words according to the types of gender and status.

CONCLUSION

Several similarities and dissimilarities of taboo words have been found in English and Hokkien. There are similarities found in English and Hokkien dialects in taboo words. It is related to sex, human anatomy, body function, excretion, animal, and death. The dissimilarity found in Hokkien dialect is related to religion were found. In addition, the researcher finds several other classifications that are not put forward by the Wardhaugh theory, namely those related to disabilities and greetings.

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