# The Translation of Taboo Utterances in Fifty Shade of Grey Movie Subtitle

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Abstract: The purpose of this research is to find out analysis translation about taboo words in the movie. Taboo words is word or group of wourds that contain ambiguous or exactly inappropriate meaning. Taboo word may be not used or heard for under age. Furthermore, Taboo words might be very dangerous and inappropriate in our country, Indonesia. Whilst there are almost every western movie contains the taboo words. Maybe the purpose is to adjust with the plot or the theme of the story and to adapt with their culture or to make the movies looks natural. The movie transcript and subtitle that used is 'Fifthy Shades of Grey", because this movie is about a man named Grey who have a sadistic in sex, so that obviously, this movie contains so many taboo words. In this research, the methods that it used is observation and analysis of the transcript from English (SL) into Indonesia (TL), especially non-participant observation methods. Taboo words is devided into 10 types and it would be explained and there are some examples for each type. Overall, the purpose of this study is to analyse the types of taboo words and to find out how taboo words are translated from SL to TL

Keywords: Taboo words, translations, Type of Taboo words, example taboo words

## INTRODUCTION

Almost every movie need Taboo word because, without it, the movies maybe seemed too awkward. Taboo words are a part of sociolinguistics, and it is the word that contains ambiguous or dirty words. Taboo words are a cultural phenomenon and sometimes they function to convey a strong feeling to something and give extra emotional emphasis (Jay, 2009). Taboo

Words are such a social prohibition in spoken which could be dangerous in the several societies and it could be considered as an offensive to certain people. In a certain society, there are some words that considered as a taboo word and it could not be spoken in front of them, such as in the formal event or in front of the family. "Taboo" itself is taken from Tongan, a Polynesian language introduced by Captain James Cook, which means something that prohibited and avoided. According to Affini (2007:94) By paying attention to norms. It is hoped that he will be able to pay attention to the choice of words he will use in communicating. Because, certain words that do not violate norms in one society, may cause misperceptions if used in another society. For example, the word "bunting" would seem rude if used in Javanese society, but for Betawi

people, this word is a term usually used to refer to women who are pregnant.

The movie "Fifty Shades of Grey" is about the man, named Grey who have a sadistic in sex, so that there are so many taboo words in this movie, especially vulgarity words. In Indonesia, sex is still considered as a taboo. So, the translation of this movie is quite difficult to translate because the translator should adjust with Indonesian culture so that the translation of this movie would not sound disgusting and violate the social norms.

In previous studies, Pratama, A.D.Y. (2016) explored the functions of taboo words found in The Help and how the taboo words are translated into the Target Language while producing the closest functions to the Source Language. The theories applied are Karamitroglue (1998). It was found that there are 18 zero-correspondences found in the target subtitle. Which shows that translating the sense of taboo words from English to Indonesian is a challenging task.

According Newmark (1981:15)to mentioned that a translator requires knowledge of literally and non-literally textual criticism since he has to access the quality of text before he decides how to interpret and translate it. Hence, the translator must be careful in choosing the appropriate words in taboo words translation. Also, the translator should settle the extent to which the translator would emphasize, whether he would stand with the TL (Target Language) or SL (Source Language). Based on the previous study, in the journal of NWM Shanti (2010) analyzed the translation of taboo words in the fast and furious Tokyo drift movie based on the theory of translations by Peter Newmark (1981:5). She found that some categories of the taboo words can be translated into Indonesian. Such as damn into brengsek, bitch into wanita jalang, ass into bokong, balls into kemaluan, etc. In this research, Taboo words would be analyzed and divided into types based on Jay (1992) theory, he said that there are 10 types of Taboo words.

Therefore, this research question would be "what are the types of taboo words that occur in Fifty Shades of grey? And "How are the Taboo word translated?". So that, the aims of this study is to classify the kinds of taboo words which occur in Fifty Shades of Grey and to investigate the way taboo words are translated in Fifty Shades of Grey.

The purpose of this research is to analyze the translation of taboo words in the movie "Fifty Shades of Grey". Taboo words are a word or group of words that contain ambiguous or exactly inappropriate meaning. Indonesia is a largely conservative country. Therefore, taboo words are used very carefully and scantly in Indonesian entertainment. Whilst in western entertainment, taboo words are used more freely and are prominent in various forms of entertainment. This cultural gap presents a challenge in the translation of taboo words from western movies for Indonesian consumption. The movie transcript that is used in this study is 'Fifty Shades of Grey", as the movie focuses on sexual themes and contains words that are taboo in the Indonesian context.

In this research, the methods that are used is observation and analysis of the transcript from English (SL) into Indonesia (TL), especially non-participant observation methods. Taboo words are divided into 10 types and it would be explained and there is some example for each type. Overall, the purpose of this study is to analyze the types of taboo words and also to find out how taboo words are translated from SL to TL.

## **Clarification of Terms**

The terms taboo language refers to owrds and phrases that are generally considered inapropriate in certain contexts. anthropolist Edmund Leach identified three major categories of taboo words in English, which are "Dirty" words that are concerned with sex and excretiom, such as "bugger". "shit." Second, words that have to do with the Christian religion, such as "Christ" and "Jesus" and third, words which are used in "animal abuse" or we can say as calling a person by the name of an animal such as "bitch", "cow". Fifty Shades of Grey movie is about a man, named Grey, who have a a sadistic in sex. So that, this movie contains a great number of taboo words. As a part of sociolinguistic study, taboo words are such a social prohibition in speaking which could be dangerous in the several society and it could be considered as an offensive to With regard to Indonesian certain people. context, taboo words are still considered as ambiguous and rude. So discovering how taboo word is translated this movie is intriguing

The first theory is Theory of translation by Peter Newmark (1981:5) defines translations theory as a body of information related to translation process. Newmark said that : a translator requires knowledge of literally and non-literally textual critisism, since he has to access the quality of a text before he decides how to interpret and translate it. furthermore, a translator should decide the extent to which he would emphasize the SL (Source Languange) into TL (Target Languange). In translating taboo words, translator need to pay attention to their connotative meanings in order to gain the right and closest equivalent translation result in the target languange.

According to Newmark theory (1981), he defines the act of translationg as transferring the meaning of a text, from one language to another, taking care mainly of the functional relevant meaning. He works with three propositions:

- a. "The more important the language of a text, the more closely it should be translated";
- b. "The less important the language of a text... the less closely it needs to be translated";
- c. "The better written a text, the more closely it should be translated, whatever its degree of importance..."

In spite of the problem that poses the ambigüity of "important" and "better written", his proposal intends to narrow the gap between targeteers (ciblistes) and sourceres (sourciers). The translator has to establish priorities in selecting which varieties of meaning to transfer in the first place. For that he has to use his creativity, particularly when he is forced to distort the target language introducing new elements of another culture. In that sense he will be breaking Toury's translational norms. That is the case when translating cultural metaphors, transcultural words, concept words. Newmark criticises the present-day controversies stuck to the conflict between free and literal translation. Newmark distinguished eight methods of translation (Newmark, 1988: 45-47): 1) Word-for-word translation, 2) Literal translation, 3) Faithful translation, 4) 2 Semantic translation, 5) Adaptation, 6) Free translation, 7) Idiomatic translation, and 8) Communicative translation.

Sometimes taboo words cannot be translated by using literal way. sometimes, people who wants to translate the taboo words should find out the another words or they should find the closest meaning from the Source Language into Target Language.

Also, NWM Shanti (2010) analysed the translation of taboo words in the *fast and furious Tokyo drift* movie based on the theory of translations by Peter Newmark (1981:5). She found that some categories of the taboo words can be translated into Indonesian. Such as damn into brengsek, bitch into wanita jalang, ass into bokong, balls into kemaluan, etc. Because some of taboo words sometimes cannot be translated well. And the last but not least, according to Karmitroglue, The text should be devided so that it follows the original dialogue as closely as possible and does not overlap too much (Karamitroglue, 1998:3-8).

#### The Function of Taboo Words

Accoring to Pratama, A.D.Y. (2016), he explored the functions of taboo words found in *The Help* and how the taboo words are translated into the Target Language while producing the closest functions to the Source Language. The theories applied are Karamitroglue (1998). It was found that there are 18 zero-correspondences found in the target subtitle. Which shows that translating the sense of taboo words from English to Indonesian is a challenging task.

## Theory of 10 categories of taboo words:

Following Permadi (2017), this research will used Jay's types of Taboo words theory as the reference. Taboo words are part of sociolinguistic. According to Jay (1992:2-9) in the 10 categories of Taboo words theory, which are:

## 1. cursing

The intent of cursing is to invoke harm on another person through the use of certain words or phrases. These words are imbued with power granted to them mainly through religious or social demarcation.

#### 2. Blasphemy

A blasphemy isan attack on religion or religious doctrine. While profanity is related to secular or indifferent (to religion). Blasphemy aims directly at the curch. Based on Montagu, Blasphemy refers to "the direct of vilifying or rediculing the divine being. These verbal assaults would take from using the Lords name in vain or cursingthe deities.

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#### 3. Taboo

A taboo operates to supress or inhibit certain behavior, thoughts or in the case speech, different culture, in order to preserve social order, use taboo to control individual within the group. The function of taboo is to prohibit the behavior of speaker or preserve social cohesion. The focus is on the speaker's behavior.

## 4. Obscenity

The function of obscenity laws is to protect listeners. Obscene speech also means unprotected speech. Unprotetted speech is not free but subject to the restriction of a Governing, federal state or local body. To call a word obscence means that it cannot be.

In American English, obscenity is pointedly as sexualin nature. Obscener words are the most offensive and rarely if we used in public media.

## 5. Profanity

Taboos on the name of god seek to avoid metaphysical malevolence by counteracting possible blasphemies (even, perhaps, profanities) that arouse their terrible wrath. An example of profanity would be a word or phrase which seeks not to denigrate god, religion or holy affairs but would be based more.

## 6. Vulgarity

Vulgarity means the language of the common person "the person in the street" or the unshopisticated, unsocial zed, or undereducated. It does not serve any particular need or function beyond the normal communication demands of the common human. Vulgarisme are not necessarily obscene or taboo. They just reflect the cruedness of street language. These words may be considered vulgar: kiss my ass, up yours

## 7. Slang

Slang is vocabulary that is developed in certain sub-groups (teenagers, musicians, soldiers, drug users, or athlete) for ease communication. The slang code serves to identify members of the group while misuse or ignorance of it identifies non members, which maybe especially important in illegal transaction. Sometimes slang term becaome popular and are used in standard language, putting preassure on sub group members to invent a nem code. Slang term are *pimp*, *dweeb* or cupcakes.

## 8. Epithets

Ephithets are brief but forceful bursts of emotional language. They are powerful in presentation (loudness or duration) and in offensiveness than other types of curseing, for example, joking. The ephithet is uttered from frustation, as you hit your hand with hammer or something. It may also mark a sense of hostility, as when someone crowds in front of you in supermarket check-out line. Example of ephithets would be *shit*, *damn*, *hell*, *Jesus Crist*, *goddamn it*, *fuck you*.

#### 9. Insult and Slur

Insult and slut 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 stereotypes or prejudice of the speaker. Inult may denote the physical, mental or phsycological qualities of the target and are commonly heard on the school playground. Some insults use animmal imagery, such as: pig, dog, son of a bitch, or are based on social

deviations like: whore, bastard, homo, fag and queer. While children's insults are commonly based on abnormal phsycal ,psychological, or social characteristics such as *fatty, dumb, wimp, etc.* 

## 10. Scatology

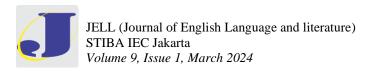
Scatological terms refer to human waste product or processes. Such terms are among the early words that children hear and use when they are toilet trained. American have a great penchant for coining childish terms rather than using starndarized terms or those of scientific origin. Scatological insults are common among children. Since scatological references are about feces and elimination, they appear as: poo poo, k aka, poop, piss, crap, turd.

## Theory of taboo words and their translation

According to Karmitroglue, he said that "it is better not to omit or eliminate the taboo words" (Karamitroglue, 1998:13). Because the one of many functions of taboo word is to express our feeling, it is better not to eliminate the taboo words in the movie transcript or in the case of subtitling any movies.

#### RESEARCH METHODS

This research is used qualitative design since the purpose of this research is to analyse



the types of taboo words and how it translated into Indonesia language.

The Data was collected by download the movie transcript from springfieldspringfield.co.uk

The first step is download and read movie subtitle. The second step is separate the text which contain taboo words. According to Jay (1992)), There are 10 types of taboo words, which are Cursing, Profanity, Obscenity, Vulgarity, Slang, Epithets, Insult and slur, Scatology, and Blasphemy. Then, the taboo words should be classified and considered which types of taboo words that it used by using Jay's theory. While Newmark distinguished eight methods of translation (Newmark, 1988: 45-47): 1) Word-for-word translation, 2) Literal translation, 3) Faithful translation, 4) 2 Semantic translation, 5) Adaptation, 6) Free translation, 7) Idiomatic translation, and 8) Communicative translation. Afterwards, the translation will be classified what method that it used for the translation.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

According to Newmark (1981: 5) in Theory of translation, he said that a translator requires knowledge of literally and non-literally textual

criticism since he has to access the quality of text before he decides how to interpret and translate it. the translator should regard to connotative. Also, a good translator absolutely translates the text as close as possible from Source Language into the Target Language. Based on Newmark's theory, the translator should read the text carefully first so that he could decide how the translation would be appropriate and easy to understand. Also, there are 2 kinds of translations for the translator, whether the translator would focus on Source Language or focus on the Target Language. First, the translator would focus on the Source Language, so that he would maintain the Source Language which means that the translator would translate the closest meaning, no matter what, from the Source Language into the Target Language. Second, the translator focus on the Target Language, which mean that there are a great number of words that also changed, also very different from the Source Language in order to adjust with the culture of the target language. Furthermore, this study used the first kind of translation. the translator focused on the Source Language, which means that the translator maintained the Source Language (English).

## 1. Cursing

Table 1: Cursing

No.	Source Language	Target language	Methods of
			translation
1.	You damn, bitch!	Brengsek kau, perempuan jalang!	Faithful translation
2.	Because I'm 50 shades of <i>fucked up</i>	Karena aku punya 50 bayangan buruk.	Idiomatic translation

## 2. Profanity

Table 2: Profanity

No.	Source Language	Target language	Methods of translation
1.	God, is he ok?	Astaga, apakah dia baik-baik saja?	Adaptation translation
2.	Holy fuck!	Astaga!	Adaptation translation
3.	What the fuck are you doing?	Astaga, apa yang kamu lakukan?	Adaptation translation

## 3. Taboo

Table 3: Taboo

No.	Source Language	Target language	Methods of translation
1.	Are you <i>gay</i> ? No, I'm not <i>gay</i>	Apakah kamu gay? Tidak, aku bukan gay	Literal translation
2.	He's rudiculously hot	Dia sangat seksi.	Semantic translation
3.	I want you to come to my playroom	Aku ingin kamu datang ke ruang bermainku.	Faithful translation
4.	I want you to willingly surrender yourself to me, to please me.	Aku ingin kau bersedia menyerahkan dirimu padaku, untuk memuaskan ku.	Faithful translation
5.	Dominant and submissive	Si Penguasa dan si Penurut	Faithful translation

## 4. Obscenity

Table 4: Obscenity

No.	Source Language	Target language	Method of translation
1.	Why? Because I will be your sex slave?	Mengapa? Karena aku akan menjadi budak sex mu?	Literal translation

# 5. Vulgarity

Table 5: Vulgarity

No.	Source Language	Target language	Method of translation
1.	Please Anna, one kiss.	Ayolah Anna, satu ciuman saja.	Faithful translation
2.	You undressed me?	Kau mengganti pakaianku?	Faithful translation
3.	I'd like to bite that lip.	Aku ingin menggigit bibirmu.	Faithful translation
4.	Are you gonna <i>make</i> love to me now?	Apakah kamu akan bercinta denganku sekarang?	Faithful translation
5.	First, I don't make love. I fuck hard.	Pertama, aku tidak bercinta. Aku berhubungan seksual dengan kasar.	Faithful translation
6.	Well, when you had sex was there anything you didn't like doing?	Lalu, saat kau berhubungan seksual, apa ada sesuatu yang tidak kau suka lakukan?	Faithful translation

No.	Source Language	Target language	Method of translation
7.	You have beautiful body, Anna.	Kau memiliki tubuh yang indah, Anna.	Literal translation
8.	Hmm, Anal fisting? Vagina visting?	Hmm, Anal fisting? (memasukan tangan dalam dubur) Vagina fisting? (memasukkan tangan kedalam vagina)	Literal translation
9.	Genital clamps? Absolutely not.	Genital clamps(penjepit kemaluan)? Tentu saja tidak.	Literal translation
10.	that you're <i>naked</i> underneath	Kau telanjang dibaliknya.	Faithful translation
11.	Then, I would bend you over.	Lalu, aku akan menggerayangimu.	Faithful translation
11.	Haha I'm naked	Haha aku sedang telanjang.	Faithful translation

# 6. Slang

Table 6: Slang

No.	Source Languange	Target languange	Method of translation
1.	Dude, she said no.	Bro, dia bilang tidak.	Adaptation translation
2.	Laters, Babe	Sampai nanti, sayang.	Faithful translation

# 7. Epithets

Table 7: Epithets

No.	Source Language	Target language	Method of translation
1.	Necrophillia is not my thing	Necrophillia (berhubungan dengan orang tidak sadar) bukan kesukaanku.	Faithful translation
2.	Fuck the paperwork	Lupakan perjanjiannya.	Free translation
3.	You're a sadist?	Kau orang yang sadis?	Faithful translation
4.	I'm a dominant, Anastasia	Aku seorang penguasa, Anastasia	Faithful translation
5.	You're still a virgin?	Kau masih perawan?	Literal translation
6.	I was her submissive for 6 years	Aku melayani nya selama 6 tahun.	Free translation
7.	Is the use of sex toys.	Penggunaan mainan sex.	Faitfhul translation

## 8. Scatology

Table 8: Scatology

No.	Source Language	Target language	Method of translation
1.	Wait, I gotta pee	Tunggu, aku mau pipis	Literal transaltion

From the ten categories of taboo words based on Jay (1992), there are only 8 categories that exist in this movie. Meanwhile, the two categories, which are Insult or slur and Blasphemy have not existed in this movie. This is because Fifty Shades of Grey movie is a romance movie so that this movie does not contain something like an insult or something that related to religion. Then, the category that exists the most is vulgarity, it because the way of the director delivered the messages of this movie is in sendual way so that this movie contains a great number of vulgarity words.

## 1. Cursing

The intent of cursing is to invoke harm on another person using certain words or phrases. In this movie one of the times when cursing is used is in this following line "Because I'm 50 shades of *fucked up*" which is translated into "Karena aku punya 50 bayangan buruk." This line happened when mr. Grey told about his past in front of his girlfriend, Anna. This line is translated using the idiomatic translation since the translator want to the subtitle sounds natural and easy to understand.

## 2. Profanity

An example of profanity would be a word or phrase which seeks not to denigrate god. religion or holy affairs but would be based more. In this movie, the profanity is used in this follwing line, which is "God, is he ok?" which is translated into "Astaga, apakah dia baik-baik saja?". This line is happenned when mr. Grey got stressed and Ana came to his home to meet him, meanwhile Anna just met his private assistant and ask about mr.Grey condition. Then, this line is transsated by using adaptation translation. Since it is impossible and looks preposterous to translate the word "god" into " tuhan. So, the translator tried to adjust with Indonesian culture because most of people in Indonesia usually say that kind of things as "astaga".

#### 3. Taboo

A taboo operates to supress or inhibit certain behavior, thoughts or in the case speech, different culture, in order to preserve social order, , use taboo to control individual within the group. in this movie the taboo words is used in this following line "He's *rudiculously hot.*." which translated into "dia dangat seksi.." this line is happenned when Anna told her bestfriend about what mr. Grey looks like. This line is translated by using semantic translation because the translator still want to deliver the meaning even with the different words, but the meaning is similar.

Also, in this following line "Are you gay?" which translated into "apakah kamu gay?. This line is happenned when Anna curious about mr.Grey's secret after she heard about the fact that mr. Grey never has a girlfriend until he met Anna. This line is translated by using literal translation because the word "gay" is already common in Indonesia and people already used to saying that "gay" word.

## 4. Obscenity

Based on those findings, there are only 8 types of taboo words that are found in the Fifty Shades of grey movie subtitle, which are cursing, profanity, taboo, vulgarity, obscenity, slang, scatology and ephitets. Meanwhile there is no insult or slur and blasphemy that are found in the movie subtitle. This is because Fifty Shades of Grey movie is a romance movie so that this movie does not contain something like an insult or something that related to religion. Then, the category that exists the most is vulgarity, it because the message that is delivered in this movie is in a sensual way. At the same time, the translation methods that is used the most is the faithful translation. In consideration odf this, the translator is trying to delivered the message without change any

structure which means that the translator trying to be faithful with the original writing. Also, the reason why the faithful translation is used the most is because it is more readable and easy to understand for the audience.

## 5. Vulgarity

Vulgarity is kind of vulgar speech, or it can be considered as offensive or obscence. In this movie, the line "Are you gonna *make love* to me now?" which translated into "Apakah kamu akan bercinta denganku sekarang?". This line appeared when Anna was in mr. Grey office room, and he sstarted to approach Anna, and she asked mr.Grey that kind of question.

This line is translated by using faithful translation. The translator tried to delivered the "sex" word in an appropriate way or in the common one but not too literal, so the translator translated the word "make love" into "bercinta" since that word is still acceptable in Indonesia. Moreover, most of taboo are translated by using faithful translation because the translator tried to make the translation still have the sense of sensuality but in an acceptable way.

## 6. Slang

Slang is vocabulary that is developed in certain sub-groups (teenagers, musicians, soldiers, drug users, or athlete) for ease the communication. in this following line "Dude, she said no." which translated into "Bro, dia bilang tidak.". This is happenned when the exboyfriend of Anna tried to approach her and he asked for one kiss but Anna refused, then mr. Grey came and stopped it. Since the literal meaning of "dude" word is "kawan" so, this line is translated by using adaptation translation.

In Indonesia, people usually called their friends (especially boy) as "bro", we don't call it as "kawan". It means that the translator tried to adjust the word "dude" with "bro" based on Indonesian culture.

## 7. Epithets

Ephithets are brief but forceful bursts of emotional language. In this following line "I'm a dominant, Anastasia.." which translated into "aku seorang penguasa, Anastashia". This is happened when mr.Grey asked Anastashia to make love with him and Anastashia refused. Then, mr.Grey forced her. This line is translated by using faithful translation. The

translator translated the word "dominant" as "si penguasa". Meanwhile, if we translate "dominant" in literal way, it should be "dominan". So, the translator used faithful translation to stand the meaning even it replaced by another words.

## 8. Scatology

Scatological terms refer to human waste product or processes. In this particular movie, the scatology that is used is when Anna wanna go to the toilet while she was hanging out with mr. Grey. She said "Wait, I gotta pee.." which translated into "Tunggu, aku mau pipis..". This line is translated by using literal translation since the word "pee" is translated into "pipis". It means that the translator is translated it literally.

## **CONCLUSION**

The most of the taboo words in Fifty Shades of Grey movie could not be translated lexically because there is too much vulgarity in this movie so that the translation should have a little change for the meaning. Although there is some exception, which is based on sentences and situations. The translation of taboo words that appeared in this movie is categorized by 10 categories then, translate it to the closest meanings. Almost all of the taboo words in the movie Fifty Shades of Grey can be translated, although some words may be translated into the same meanings.

There are some taboo words that translated into Indonesian which has similar meanings. Such as, "god", "holy fuck", and "what the fuck", these three taboo words are translated into "astaga". In the Target Language they have very different words, but when these words are translated into the Source Language, it translated into a similar meaning. Overall, taboo words maybe not appropriate in Indonesia, because sometimes it sounds rude, or dirty and disgusting. But, the another function of taboo words that it could explain the feelings of the speakers or the actor.

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