

## AN ANALYSIS OF TABOO WORDS USED IN EXTENDED PLAYER ALBUM *MORE MALICE* BY SNOOP DOGG

First Author <sup>1</sup>Jessy Ernes, Second Author <sup>2</sup>Gurendi Wiwoho

e-mail: \*<sup>1</sup>[axesmall1@gmail.com](mailto:axesmall1@gmail.com), <sup>2</sup>[gurendi-wiwoho@untagsmg.ac.id](mailto:gurendi-wiwoho@untagsmg.ac.id)

Affiliation <sup>1, 2</sup> English Study Program, Faculty of Language and Culture  
University of 17 Agustus 1945 Semarang

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### ABSTRACT

Communication is the way to associate with others. It is not only spoken but also can be written which can be expressed in text. Text could be a language that contains sentences that express someone's feelings, thoughts, and messages. Song lyrics are one of the results of a text. It has meaning from the speaker to readers. In this study, the writer is interested to discuss taboo words in the song lyrics within *More Malice EP* by Snoop Dogg. Especially, this study focus on analyzing their types, the predominant types, their meanings and their functions. The research method used in this study is descriptive qualitative. There are 8 songs in the album, but only 7 songs were analyzed. Based on the analysis of the data of taboo words in the album, the results are as follows. Firstly the types of taboo words found in the album are epithet, vulgarity, obscenity, and profanity. The predominant type is obscenity. Secondly, the types of taboo words found in the album are conceptual, connotative, and affective. The predominant meaning is connotative. Finally, the functions of taboo words found in the album are to draw attention, to show contempt, to be provocative, and to mock authority. The predominant function is to draw attention.

Keywords: semantics, taboo words, song lyrics, meanings, functions

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### INTRODUCTION

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. The role of language is significant in the process of interaction or delivery of information in society. People always communicate with each other to provide information, orders, and ideas both for communication or, more precisely, they can deliver information.

People, in general, use a soft and polite style of language in the process of delivering information to avoid misunderstandings. Especially if the object of speech is many and from various classes of society, they highly uphold the etiquette of politeness to avoid the harmful effects of misunderstanding, such as verbal or physical confrontation.

For the generation of young people, the use of abusive language, more specifically taboo words, is often used in everyday life. Some people consider this unethical, but some people, especially a number of the younger generation, understand and consider it reasonable. This may be due to many young people who want to be free in their verbal interactions.

Taboo word produces disgust, embracement, and violate social norms in a society (Jay, 1999:84). Many artists also use taboo words in their art. They express their hearts in the artwork, even though they insert taboo words. For example, American rap artist Snoop Dogg often uses taboo words in his songs. Thus, the writer wants to examine the taboo words used in the 8 (eight) songs included in the *Extended Player* album by Snoop Dogg.

Because the writer is a musician and a music lover, he is always interested in any genre of music that he has not known. Throughout his time of becoming a musician for about 10 (ten) years, there is one genre of music that he has not studied rap music. He is also interested in learning about this music, especially the use of taboo words in the lyrics from one of the famous rap musicians from California, the USA named Snoop Dogg.

One thing that intrigues the writer is the use of taboo words by him because he looks so supple when he said it, and the writer feels that the taboo words he used have multiple meanings. Sometimes Snoop Dogg says things like "fuck" while smiling and almost not implying anger. Meanwhile, the writer only knows that this word means swearing to someone. Many other taboo words are contained in the song's lyrics. The writer will find out what they mean in this research.

## **METHODOLOGY**

An inquire about approach must be built up with a particular procedure of how data is collected and analyzed. A suitable strategy sanctions a vital part in conducting

the research. It plans to investigate ponder with reasonable approaches to gather information as a ground of inferential and interpretative forms (Cohen, 2000:4).

Research needs a design before data collection or analysis can initiate. It describes logical sequences of what to be done to complete the research (Yin, 1989:29). It is to guarantee that the gotten information precisely communicates the fundamental quality of perspectives beneath the study and is able to reply to the defined questions as unambiguously as conceivable.

In this research, the writer will conduct a descriptive qualitative. It is the method communication researchers use to describe and interpret the characteristics of a recorded or visual message (Frey, L., Botan, C., & Kreps, G.:1999). The purpose of textual analysis is to explain the content, structure, and function of the messages contained in the text. In expansion, the author will manage subjective expressive approaches since the quantitative and measurable measures did not fit the issues (Creswell, 2007:85).

The writer thinks that these approaches and designs are suitable for this research. By using these approaches and designs, the writer will find the taboo words in the "More Malice" EP by Snoop Dogg as well as find their meanings and functions. The writer hopes by using these approaches and designs, the readers will understand more about the variety of taboo words.

The writer will only focus on taboo words, taboo words' meanings, and the taboo words' function in the songs that included in the Extended Player album "More Malice" by Snoop Dogg. By doing this, the writer hopes to find the meanings and the functions of taboo words in these songs:

- a. I Wanna Rock - The Kings G-Mix
- b. Protocol
- c. So Gangsta
- d. House Shoes
- e. That Tree
- f. You're Gonna Luv Me
- g. Pronto - G-Mix
- h. Gangsta Luv

**DISCUSSION**

The data taken are the taboo words consisted in the Extended Player album More Malice by Snoop Dogg. Meanwhile the findings that are found by the researcher are including the types of taboo words, their meanings, also their functions in the lyrics.

**1. Types of Taboo Words**

ACCUMULATION	TYPES								
	Jay (1992: 2 – 9)								
	EPT	PRO	VUL	OBS	CUR	BLA	SLG	IERS	SCT
	<b>SNOOP DOGG EP “MORE MALICE”</b>								
18	1	2	19						
<b>40 types</b>									

There are four types of taboo words found in Snoop Dogg’s EP “More Malice” from nine. They are vulgarity, profanity, obscenity, and epithets by Jay’s (1999:84) theory. Each of them is explained one by one followed by some example.

a. Obscenity

Obscenity is depicted as a term that characterized sex differentiating life structures or sexual and excretory function in a rough way such as fuck and shit. Obscenity and vulgarity have the same reference but both are distinctive. The distinction between obscenity and vulgarity is related to the level of indecency. Obscenity is disallowed from open utilize since they include repugnance to the sense, abhorrent, rude, and detestable to ethical quality.

From the explanation, we can see there are two data about vulgarity utilized in Snoop Dogg’s EP “More Malice”. The word *fuck* in I Wanna Rock song shows up four times in each sentence. It can be seen underneath:

“Your boy still ‘Snoop’ around”  
“Since a pup, I been ‘Krupt, and I *fuck* with Tha Dogg Pound”

On the lyric “Your boy still ‘Snoop’ around, since a pup, I been ‘Krupt, and I *fuck* with Tha Dogg Pound” mean the subject “I” within the sentence isn't somebody who has had sexual relations with Tha Dogg Pound in spite of the word *fuck*. But it means the subject was once companions with Tha Dogg Pound, because "Krupt" and Tha Dogg Pound are the same rapper from America and has same gender.

b. Epithet

Epithet incorporates an assortment of things related to race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, sexuality, one's appearance, and disabilities such as bitch, nigger, motherfucker and son of a bitch. Epithet can occur because the person articulating the word is propelled by reform or anger. Therefore, he will utilize emotional dialect with taboo words tended to to other individuals.

From the explanation, we can see there are two data about epithet utilized in Snoop Dogg's EP “More Malice”. The word *motherfucker* in House Shoes song shows up two times in each sentence. It can be seen underneath:

“The answer is you can't”  
“And even if you could, then *motherfucker* you ain't”

On the lyric “The answer is you can't, and even if you could, then motherfucker you ain't” mean the subject in the lyric is being watching someone who is doing something that makes that person deserved of being called an asshole, but finally it does not happen.

c. Vulgarity

Vulgarity is different from the other two types above because it alludes to words or expressions that contain sexual life structures and excretory function in a unpleasant way such as ass, dick, and pussy.

Vulgarity is accepted to illustrate the crude expression of street language. Hence the utilize of disgusting language is usually to humiliate or bring down something or person referred to.

From the explanation, we can see there are two data about vulgarity utilized in Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice". The word pussy in You're Gonna Luv' Me song shows up one times in a sentence. It can be seen underneath:

"I fuck her with my chain on, she pulls on my shirt"  
"Like nigga don't stop, until the *pussy* squirt"

On the lyric - "I fuck her with my chain on, she pulls on my shirt. Like nigga don't stop, until the pussy squirt" mean the subject is telling when he is having sex with a woman until the woman feels an orgasm and is written as "until the pussy squirt". So, this is the true meaning about *pussy* and not the figurative one

d. Profanity

Profanity happens when somebody is utilizing religious phrasing in a profane such as Jesus Christ, hell, damn, and Goddamn. In spite of the fact that the phrasing is utilized with those manners, but the intention of the speaker is not really to criticize God or anything related with religion. The intention of the speaker is really to express an emotional response to certain jolts. In Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice", profanity words used in the song lyrics is damn.

From the explanation, we can see there are one data about vulgarity utilized in Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice". The word *dammit* in Pronto song shows up one time in a sentence. It can be seen underneath:

"Step on the scene, make the haters say *dammit*"  
"Soulja Boy Tell 'Em hottest rapper on the planet"

On the lyric "Step on the scene, make the haters say *dammit*. Soulja Boy Tell 'Em hottest rapper on the planet" means the subject

asked Soulja Boy to say that he is the coolest rapper ever to a certain group of people.

**2. Meaning of Taboo Words**

ACCUMULATION	Meanings (Leech, 1981: 12)		
	Affective	Conceptual	Connotative
	<b>SNOOP DOGG EP "MORE MALICE"</b>		
	3	18	19
<b>40 meanings</b>			

In the selected lyrics of Snoop Dogg’s EP “More Malice” the writer was considered the taboo words based on the kinds of taboo itself and the word that marked by writer as important thing to be analyzed what the meaning inside the word by looking for the donative and connotative meaning. In other words, the writer analyzes the word in taboo that was marked by looking for denotative meaning and connotative meaning to determine word meaning in a given context based on taboo meaning that found from the data before. The writer explained the data as follow:

a. Conceptual Meaning

Conceptual meaning (some of the time called denotative meaning) is broadly assumed to be the central factor in linguistic communication, it can be appeared to be necessarily to the essential functioning of language in a way that other sorts of meaning are not.

Example 1

“I fuck her with my chain on, she pulls on my shirt”  
 “Like nigga don't stop, until the *pussy* squirt”

Part of song lyrics above say, I fuck her with my chain on, she pulls on my shirt. Like nigga don't stop, until the pussy squirt. Based on the song lyrics above the word “pussy” in the lyrics is conceptual meaning because explain about a woman's vital organ clearly in the

situation of men and women who are told are having sexual intercourse. Conceptual meanings are pure word meaning.

b. Connotative Meaning

Connotative meaning is the communicate value an expression has by virtue of what it refers to, over and above is purely conceptual content. To a large extent, the reference overlaps with conceptual meaning. When the contrastive characteristics are translated into "real word" terms, they become attributes of the referent (that which the word refers to).

Example 1

"So let the money talk for me, fuck the nonsense"

"Hold me down, be my ride or die *bitch*"

Part of song lyrics above say, so let the money talk for me, fuck the nonsense. Hold me down, be my ride or die bitch. Based on the song lyrics above the word "bitch" in the lyrics is connotative meaning because it explains about a man that asks for intercourse with a woman, not riding the said woman like a vehicle. Connotative meaning means the meaning of possession or additional meaning.

c. Affective Meaning

For a few linguists it refers to emotive affiliation or effects of words evoked within the reader, audience. It is what is passed on almost the individual sentiments or attitude towards the listener. Affective meaning may be a sort of meaning which an impact the individual feeling of speakers, including his/her attitude to the audience, or his/her attitude to something he/she talking almost.

Example 1

"But ain't no *mutherfuckas* from the west coast winning no awards, nigga?"

"It's like that, it's just like that"



Part of song lyrics above say, “but ain't no mutherfuckas from the west coast winning no awards, nigga? It's like that, it's just like that.” Based on the song lyrics above the word *mutherfuckas* in the lyrics is affective meaning because it explains that no one from West Coast wins. The real meaning from this sentence is that nobody in West Coast wins the award but it is written in a different diction without changing the real meaning. Furthermore, affective meaning can be expressed directly and indirectly, depending on the context.

**3. Function of Taboo Words**

ACCUMULATI ON	Functions (Wardhaugh (2006: 239))			
	Show Contempt	Draw Attention	Provocative	Mock Authority
	<b>SNOOP DOGG EP “MORE MALICE”</b>			
	12	18	3	7
<b>40 functions</b>				

This section discusses the functions of taboo words the found in Extended Player “More Malice” by Snoop Dogg. The detailed explanations in this part answer the second research question stated in Chapter I. All four functions of taboo words, including drawing attention to oneself, to be provocative, to show contempt, and to mock authority by Wardhaugh (2006: 239). Each of them is explained one by one followed by some example.

a. To Show Contempt

This function happens when individuals express taboo words to show their dissatisfied feeling towards the recipient. It can be said that the point of the speaker is to outrage their opposite pride since they believe that their inverse partners are completely ineffective. To make the definition clearer, there are two illustrations of this function that are clarified one by one underneath.

Example 1

“This ain't no cake walk nigga”  
“*Fuck* the police, one time can't contain us”

The lyrics of Snoop Dogg's EP “More Malice” above tell us about his dissatisfaction towards the police because the police ban something that becomes his needs, and he wants to show it to the listeners that there is nothing or no one stopping him from doing his action, even the police will become useless. Pronouncement of the taboo words over that can outrage a person's self-esteem.

b. To Draw Attention to Oneself

This function happens when somebody expresses a taboo word which has a strong intention to pick up the listener's attention. In addition, by using solid and powerful dialect such as taboo word, the audience will immediately react the speaker's expression. Here are a few examples to draw attention to oneself.

Example 1  
“I'ma smoke 'til my *motherfuckin'* last breath  
“Street shit they can't come near

The lyrics of Snoop Dogg's EP “More Malice” above tell us if Snoop Dogg will smoke until whenever and no one will disturb his comfort in smoking. He said taboo words *motherfuckin'* to attract someone's attention because he is someone who has no fear to anyone just as he wrote in the lyrics.

c. To Be Provocative

This function happens when a speaker expresses taboo words to provoke a certain reaction from the audience such as violation or outrage. The application of taboo words in someone's expression is accepted to be the most effective strategy for inviting a chaotic response. Subsequently, a few people tend to choose the business of taboo words in their conversation to get the expected response from the audience.

Example 1

“Got my nephew Soulja Boy in this *mothafucker*”  
“We need you to move like pronto”

The lyrics of the song above Snoop Dogg tell us if he wants to invite Soulja Boy to join him doing something. It can be seen by the following lyrics “We need you to move like pronto” which strengthen the fact that the purpose of taboo word motherfucker in the song is to provoke someone to follow something that he/she wants. It shows that he said the word “motherfucker” to provoke a response from someone.

d. To Mock Authority

This function can happen when people express taboo words because they are not satisfied with public images such as the government and institutions. Subsequently, they express taboo words that are directed to taunt authority in order to show their disbelief around legislative stuffs. To create the explanation clearer, there's few case of discussion which shows to mock authority function which is presented underneath.

Example 1

“I'm on my Eastside, shit I'm working”  
“West Coast bitch, I'm on my *fucking* throne”

At the part of the song lyrics above, Snoop Dogg tell us that he hates West Coast because of the imbalance between East Side and West Coast. Pronouncement of the taboo words above shows that he criticized West Coast because something in there is making him unsatisfied.

## CONCLUSION

There are several conclusions that can be drawn based on the on the findings and discussions of the research:

1. Out of nine types of taboo words, Snoop Dogg used four types. There are four types of taboo words in Snoop Dogg's EP “More Malice”. consist of; obscenity, vulgarity, profanity, and last epithets. The types of taboo words found are

- obscurity as may 19 data, vulgarity 3 data, profanity 1 data, and epithets 18 data. In conclusion, obscenity was mostly dominant used in Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice".
2. There are third of meaning taboo words in Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice". Consist of; conceptual meaning, and connotative meaning. The meaning of taboo words for conceptual meaning 18 data, affective meaning 3 data and last connotative meaning 19 data. Based on the research findings above, it can be seen that Snoop Dogg mainly used connotative in the More Malice EP.
  3. The taboo words used in the Snoop Dogg's More Malice EP mostly have function to show contempt. The writer also found the use function of taboo words. To show contempt is mostly dominant, the final the writer found meaning of taboo words. Connotative meaning is predominant from Snoop Dogg's EP "More Malice" and Obscenity is predominant types from Snoop Doog's EP "More Malice"

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