

## **Realization of Swear Word in Reynhard Sinaga's Case on 'Twitter'**

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**ABSTRACT:** The research found how the realization of swear word in RS's case in twitter. By analysed the tweet to know how the realization of use swear word trough the motive has used to find out the reasons use swear words related to the RS' case. The motive has found how to realization swear word in RS's case are psychological motive, social motive and linguistic motive. Supporting research by analysed the tweets related in RS's case, as many 121 clauses were obtained. It found psychological motive is the most motive has used by twitter's users.

**Keywords:** Swear word, Reynhard Sinaga's case, twitter

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## INTRODUCTION

Since the launch of Twitter in 2006, Twitter has become one of the most visited sites in the world. Gil (2018), in Lifewire website, describes what Twitter is and how it works. He states that Twitter is an online news and social networking site where people communicate in short messages called “tweets”. Twitter has a particular rule to share messages, ideas, opinions, or news. Tweeting is sending short messages to anyone who follows you on Twitter, with the hope that your messages are useful and interesting to someone in your audience. Twitter employs a purposeful message size restriction to keep things scan-friendly: every microblog “tweet” entry is limited to 280 characters or less.

He argues that this size capability promotes the focused and clever use of language, which makes tweets very easy to scan, and also very challenging to write well. This size restriction has really made Twitter as a popular social media. Start from early year 2020, Twitter has horrendous news came from England, in the city of Manchester. A rape case by an Indonesia doctoral student named Reynhard Sinaga. The 37-year-old man is considered very cruel because he raped more than 100 young men. The news was reported in the mass media, one of them on the Twitter. Twitter user give a lot of negative comments, some cursing, swearing, sad, shocked, angry, ect.

People give reactions such as negative comments, some cursing, swearing, sad and ect, in Twitter after read the news and they share their feeling use swear word. This research analysed the reason Twitter’s user gave swear word for RS case. The tweets consist swear words in RS’s case are taken starting from that are uploaded in 23 January 2020 until December 2020.

Furthermore, Anderson and Trudgill (1992) describe the reason why people swear. There are three motives swear words are produced. They are psychological motive, social motive, and linguistic motive.

## THEORETICAL REVIEW

### *Psychological Motive*

The reason why swear words are produced is because people give reaction to phenomena or incident around them. Swearing is considered as a normal reaction toward incident which makes somebody shocked or angry. Ljung (2011) add the swear words are not deliberate, but come more as a reflect. In psychological motive, swear words are uttered unconsciously as normal reaction. For example, I feel sick, Fuck boy, OMG doesn’t bear thinking about.

### *Social Motive*

Social motives for swearing are closely related to someone’s social relationships with others through interaction. As previously mentioned,

swearwords may possess different functions when they are uttered in different social contexts (Holmes, 2013). Therefore, there are many social motives for people to swear. People commonly swear, for instance, in order to amuse, insult, and also to shock someone. Moreover, it can also be used to indicate intimacy or friendship, strengthen a group identity, show social distance or solidarity, etc. Example, Dammit the dragon clan are dangerous, “Princess street” lol you can’t make this shit up.

### *Linguistic Motive*

In linguistic motive, swear words are produced to give emphasize to certain word. They are also used to deliver the message properly and to express amazement or shock. For example in the phrase “what the fucking are you doing?” The word fucking is applied to emphasize the word —doing.

Explanations in the theory by Anderson and Trudgill is used to explain the contextual meaning of tweets that contain swear words. The three reasons strengthen the meaning of the swear word so that answers are obtained from the contextual swear word’s meaning and the objectives in this study are obtained.

The relationship between language and society is explained by Hudson (1996), sociolinguistics as the study of language in relation to the society. In addition, other experts and sociolinguists tried obtain information by conducting studies about phenomena of language and society. Therefore, Holmes describes what sociolinguists do (2001) as follows:

Sociolinguists study the relationship between language and society. They are interested in explaining why we speak differently in different social context, and they are concerned with identifying the social functions of language and the way it is used to convey social meaning. Examining the way people use language in different social context provides a wealth of information about the way language works, as well as about the social relationship in a community, and the way people signal aspects of their social identity through their language.

In addition, Wardhaugh (2006) describes sociolinguistics by analyzing each word. He describes society as —a group of people who have certain purposes or purposes. Meanwhile language is what the members of certain society speak. Hence, according to the experts, language and society cannot be separated. They are connected one another.

## **RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This research applied a descriptive qualitative method (Meleong, 2004). The data is clauses consist swear word about RS’s case. This research contained data experts to describe the presentation of the research and the data are

collection of explanation result of analyze the reason use swear word from Twitter's users.

## RESULTS

The data will conduct with the result of 121 clauses from the 117 tweets swear word related RS's case. Clauses and sentences consist swear words in Twitter about RS's case had been analysed and categorized into the 3 motives of use swear words in twitter which are explained by Anderson & Trudgill (1992). It was be the first step to convenience in searching the reason use swear words. After conducting the selecting step, these data were categorized as the reason use swear words as the motive because it contained of the characteristics previously mentioned. Then, in the focusing step, this data answered the amount of data contained in the swear words. In the simplifying phase, the researcher presented numeric table and diagram to make it easier for readers to see the number of swear words contained in this research. At the abstracting step, the researcher embraced the understanding and a brief explanation of the numeric table and diagram that had been made (Miles, Huberman, and Saldana, 2014). The results of the categorization were then quantified, and the overall results were summarized in the table below.

**Table 3.1** The result

| Types of Swear Word     | Quantity | Percentage (%) |
|-------------------------|----------|----------------|
| a. Psychological Motive | 80       | 66%            |
| b. Social Motive        | 15       | 13 %           |
| c. Linguistic Motive    | 26       | 21 %           |
| Total                   | 121      | 100 %          |

**Table 3.1** The data of this research consisted of 121 tweets and get the motive result, they are; Psychological Motive 66%, Social Motive 13% and Linguistic Motive 21%.

Based on the table above, it can be seen that Psychological motive was predominant among of all. It indicates that the data used in this research mostly concerned with express their feeling. Twitter users use swear words to emphasize their anger, excitement, sadness, and others.

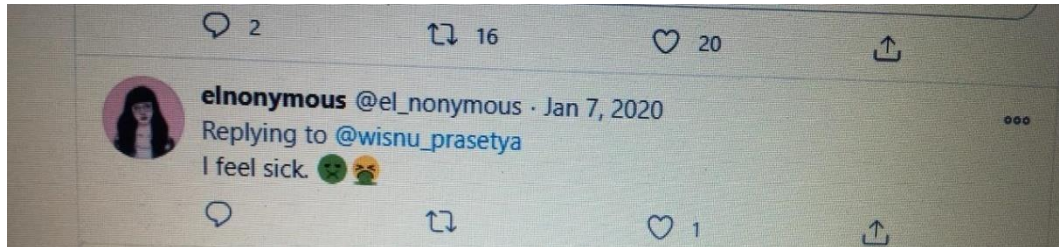
## DISCUSSION

### *Psychological Motive*

In psychological motives, swearing is used as a way for us to express feelings and reduce stress. The emotional feelings referred to are non-empathic

feelings, anger, frustration, shock, sadness, and joy. This feeling also affects the frequency with which we curs. For example, the angrier we get, the more we swear at it.

1. @el\_nonymous - I feel sick



**Picture 1:** Tweet from elonymous.

The tweet states in realization that the user feels disgust for RS's doing. In lexical meaning, the tweet states that the user feels pain, perhaps physically or psychologically, but for this situation, the user states that he feels strange and it can be assumed that the news of RS's actions disturbed his mind. The clause I feel sick is written with a psychological motive because the user spontaneously expresses his feelings through the tweet. The emoji written can describe the meaning of the tweet he wrote that he feels annoyed and angry with RS.

2. @gedspears - Release them into the general prison population



**Picture 2:** Tweet from Ged

In this tweet, the person says that RS is an animal and ask him to release into animal habitat. Whereas in context, the meaning of RS is a human. The Twitter's user is so angry and upset that RS was called the beast. In realization for this tweet an animal is more worthy of spending its life in a permanent pen or prison.

*Social Motive*

Based on the social context, swearing has a different function. That way, in social motives, swearing serves to entertain, insult, and surprise. In addition, this disrespectful act can also depict intimacy or friendship, strengthen group identities, and show our social distancing or solidarity.

1. @Candisinaga - I will not deny that he is my clan, but what he did is unacceptable. May he be tortured to death in jail!



**Picture 3:** Tweet from Candi Sinaga.

For this tweet, social motive related to someone's social relationship. One of them was for this tweet, @candisinaga said that he and RS is in a clan, but he still wouldn't give a forgiveness for what RS did. In the contextual meaning of this tweet is in the form of anger and shock which is aimed even though there is no swear word, but the expression aimed is anger towards RS.

2. @Fransmanuel a big thumb for you brother..



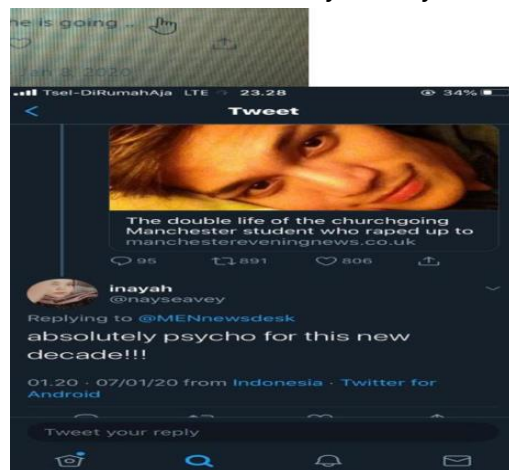
**Picture 4:** Tweet from Frans Imanuel.

In this tweet, @fransimanuel considers RS to be his brother with the nickname he wrote. However, in a contextual meaning, @fransimanuel only provided an utterance to insult RS. There is no intimacy or close relationship between the twitter's user and RS. This explanation can be considered as a social motive, the user gave a tweet which was deemed insulting to RS.

### *Linguistic Motive*

In linguistic motives, swearing does not function to express feelings, but appears solely as a linguistic element. Through this motive, swearing becomes our way of emphasizing the meaning or message we want to convey and in general showing our daily conversation style. In linguistic motive, swear words are produced to give emphasize to certain word. They are also used to deliver the message properly and to express amazement or shock. For example in the phrase "*what the fucking are you doing?*" The word *fucking* is applied to emphasize the word -doing.

Absolutely psycho for this new decade. @nayseavey



**Picture 5:** Post from Inayah.

The phrase "absolutely psycho" in this tweet to strengthen the tweet that RS is really a psycho for this decade. The use of the word absolutely in the tweet has the meaning of affirming that the action taken by RS is truly not commendable. So that the person inserts the word absolutely in his tweet. Reynhard sinaga is smart but he's so fucking sick. @dibulanmaret



Picture 6: Post from Caca.

For this tweet, people saw the background of RS's life. People know that RS is a smart student. RS was born in 1983 in Jambi into a family of Protestant Christians. He graduated S-1 from the University of Indonesia majoring in architecture in 2006, Then moved to the United Kingdom to continue his education at the University of Manchester in August 2007. He graduated from S-2 majoring in urban planning in 2009 and sociology in 2009. Sinaga took his Masters in Human Geography at the University of Leeds in August 2012, but did not finish. He submitted a thesis entitled "Sexuality and everyday transnationalism among South Asian gay and bisexual men in Manchester" in August 2016, but did not pass and he was given additional time for revision. His life is borne by his father who works as a banker. His mother was present at the pretrial hearing, but did not attend the next four trials. During his time in Manchester, RS lived openly as a gay man and had dated once. He regularly worships at the English church, the Anglican Church of St Chrysostom's Church. If people see from his track record, of course we know that he is such a smart one. But, because of what he had done, people said that he is such a fucking sick.

The explanation from the background above is an illustration of why RS is called a smart person, but because of his case, people consider him a sick person. And with the addition of '-ing' at the end of the swear word 'fuck', it can be expressed with a linguistic motive.

This research was conducted to how realization motif of swear word in RS case. In this study, the clauses that contain swear words and those which mean swear words can be explained simply that a swear word is not just a word or sentence but rather an expression that is written down or spoken, so the explanation of swear words is very broad and always based. the context of the sentence and its intended use. However, they do not rule out using swear words on certain things because according to them swear word is a way of expressing oneself to express emotions self.

## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Furthermore, this study found a contextual meaning that can explain the meaning of the swear word itself. Swear words cannot be interpreted if they do not have the purpose and meaning of the writing. So, the theory of reasons for using swear words by Anderson and Trudgill supports the reasons for using swear words in Twitter and can help in finding the contextual meaning of swear words in this study. For this study it contributed to find contextual meaning is not only through words, phrases, clauses and sentences, but can use someone's background, the expressions used or how the reader's view interprets the meaning of the sentence and it support from motive of use swear words. It could be seen from the similarity to emanate from a common pool of utterance's motive. In realization of swear word related to RS's case, the researcher gave more explanation of finding research. The aim is to better understand the research results by providing examples and descriptions of the types of swear words in the two theories. Swear words are more understandable after the explanation of the research results obtained.

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