

ABSTRACT

Fauzi Rahman, 1205030096. *Taboo Words of The Eminem's Song Lyrics in The Death of Slim Shady (Coup de Grâce)* Album. English Literature Department, Adab and Humanities Faculty, State Islamic University Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung. Advisor 1: Deuis Sugaryamah, Dra., M.Pd., Advisor 2: Toneng Listiani, M.Hum.

This research explores the use of taboo language in Eminem's twelfth studio album, *The Death of Slim Shady (Coup de Grâce)*, as a sociolinguistic phenomenon that reflects the relationship between language, culture, identity, and social values. Taboo language in hip-hop music is frequently employed not only to express strong emotions but also to challenge social norms, construct artistic identity, and deliver social criticism. Therefore, this study aims to identify the types of taboo words used in Eminem's song lyrics and to analyze their social functions. The object of this research is the taboo words found in the lyrics, while the research subjects are seven selected songs from the album: Houdini, Tobey, Renaissance, Evil, Fuel, Guilty Conscience 2, and Somebody Save Me. This research employs a descriptive qualitative method using content analysis. The data were collected from the official song lyrics and analyzed based on Jay's (1999) taxonomy of taboo language and Wardaugh's (2006) theory of the social functions of taboo words. The findings identify seven primary categories of taboo words in Eminem's lyrics, including obscenity, insult/slur, profanity, vulgarity, epithet, blasphemy, and slang. The analysis further reveals that these taboo words perform several important social functions, such as drawing attention, expressing contempt, provoking audiences, mocking authority, providing emotional catharsis, and creating strong personal bonds. Rather than functioning merely as offensive expressions, Eminem strategically employs taboo language to challenge societal norms, express intense emotions, construct an authentic artistic persona, and engage in social critique. This linguistic approach highlights Eminem's significant role in shaping hip-hop culture while reflecting broader sociolinguistic issues concerning language, identity, and power. In conclusion, the study demonstrates that taboo words serve as powerful communicative and rhetorical devices whose meanings extend beyond offensiveness, contributing to a deeper understanding of the relationship between language, culture, and artistic expression in contemporary music.

Keynote: Sociolinguistics, Taboo, Eminem, Hip-Hop Songs.

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