

# AN ANALYSIS OF SLANG ON JONAH HILL'S *MID90S* MOVIE SCRIPT.

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## ABSTRACT

The researcher focuses on the analysis of slang in Jonah Hill's *mid-90s* movie script. The objectives of the study are to find out the types of slang used by Jonah Hill in the *MID90s* movie script and the reasons for Jonah Hill's use of slang in the *MID90s* movie script. The researcher applies the theory used in the conversation in particular context, whether it is humour pain relief. The researcher uses Laila Oksiana (2005)'s theory, the theory of slang language proposed by Partridge and the theory of slang language invented by Yanchun and The finding shows that there are three types of the slang used in the movie above. They are society slang, workmen's slang, and public house slang. Slang words or phrases have been written in the text, such as sloppy, kickflip, ollie, slammed, tail, 5-o, wack, faggot, bucks, ton, homie, son, baby, kid, dog, and so on. It is also found that society slang is the slang language that was most often used in the movie. Because this movie takes place in places closely connected with society,

Keywords: slang, movie script, pain relief.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is a basic tool in society. It is used for communication. Language allows some people to say things to each other and express their communicative needs. Language is the cement of society, allowing people to live, work, and play together. Sometimes it is used to merely keep communication channels open so that if any need arises to say something of importance, a suitable channel is available.

The correlation between language and society is learned in sociolinguistics. Wardhaugh (2000:12) states that sociolinguistics is concerned with investigating the relationship between language and society with the goal of having a better understanding of the structure of language and how language functions in communication. From the definition above, it can be inferred that language and society are so closely related.

By using language to communicate, people use many ways to make communication run smoothly. Sometimes, many people use their own language and their own ways to interact with each other. They choose the words that they want to use when communicating. Thus, a

language changes because many people use their own styles of using it. It is not strange if, at the end, there are differences in language use.

Language cannot be separated from society. It is because they have relationships with each other. In linguistics, the relationship between language and society is called sociolinguistic. According to Janet Holmes (1992:1), sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language and society. It is supported by Trudgill's (1974) argument that sociolinguistics is the part of linguistics that is connected with language as a social and cultural phenomenon. It is shown that language is not only a social phenomenon but also a cultural phenomenon.

Some facts about languages are that they are always changing over time, are different from one another, and have a lot of varieties. Language variations exist because of the use of a single language that is different within a single community, such as men not speaking like women and older people not speaking like younger people. The principle types of language variation manifested in pronunciation (accent), grammar, and vocabulary are the regional variation (regional dialect) and the social variation( social dialect, sociolect, jargon, slang, and argot).

Language varieties that can occur within communication depend on the aspect of the speaker. As the statement from Fishman in Muhammad Ismail (2014) says, from the aspect of the speaker, language variety is divided into five parts: *Dialect, register, jargon, style, and slang*

According to Holmes (1992:11), slang is "an ever-changing set of colloquial words and phrases that speakers use to establish or reinforce social identity or cohesiveness within a group or with a trend or fashion in society at large". Another definition by Menchen (1988:481) of slang is expressions that do not belong to Standard English. Wierzbicka (1996:3) states that "language is an instrument for conveying meaning. The structure of this instrument reflects its function, and it is only properly understood in terms of its function". It means that the study of language without reference to meaning is impossible because language can be useful because of its meaning.

According to Eric Partridge in his book slang, "*Today and Yesterday*", he states that "The different kinds of slang are numerous, and I propose to treat of only the twenty-four most

important: after all, there are limits. In this part, the writer will only explain some types of slang. Some slang types are:

1. Lighter, J.E., Random House Historical of American Slang (New York: Random House, 1994), p. xxi-xxix
2. Eric Partridge, Slang Today and Yesterday (London: Routledge & Kegan Paul, 1950), p. 14

Linking up with the public house is workmen's slang. This type is also very closed to tradesman slang, yet all in all, it is better to consider them apart. The characteristic of the users of workmen's slang is that they don't mention the real thing, but they call it by another name that is already used and understood among them.

As part of types of slang, public house group words and phrases make up for the smallness of the recorded vocabulary by nature of the subject. The definition of public house slang is that as public house group words and phrases make up for the smallness of the recorded vocabulary by nature of the subject.

## **B. RESEARCH METHOD**

The researcher adopted a qualitative method for this study, as it aligns with several key characteristics of qualitative research. Firstly, the research was conducted in a natural setting, where the data were observed and collected without any manipulation of the subjects, place, time, or behavior. Secondly, the data gathered in this research consists of utterances spoken by the characters, presented in the form of words rather than numerical data. Thirdly, the research was carried out in an inductive manner, allowing the researcher to analyse, interpret, report, and draw conclusions from the data.

In the process of analysing the data, the researcher relies on the theory of slang language proposed by Partridge to determine the type of slang used. Additionally, the effect of using slang was examined based on the framework proposed by Swanson and Golden. Furthermore, a theory of slang language introduced by Yanchun and Yanhong was employed to explain the function of slang uttered by the main characters in the movie "MID90S." By utilizing these theoretical frameworks, the researcher aims to gain insights into the use and impact of slang language in the context of the movie's dialogue.

## C. Finding and Discussion

The following is the finding:

### 1.a. Society Slang

The setting is from the street outside of the Ultimate Skate Shop, and this word was said by Fuckshit (it happened when he was regarding Jorge).

The following are excerpts from the quoted conversations:

FOURTH GRADE: Nuh... uh. No peeking. No one sees anything until the whole thing is done.

JORGE: Come on!

Stevie notes this respect and affection between them.

FUCKSHIT: Don't worry, you don't want to see that Sloppy shit anyway, nigga.

JORGE: Ha! You WISH you were landing that!

Society slang is commonly used in daily speech and is connected with society. This slang is a term that the vocabularies generally use to show the world and life. It hovers joyously. The writer compares the common term and the slang term for the word *sloppy* that he has seen in the dictionaries. In slang terms from the quoted conversation above, the word *sloppy* means "a person who does things poorly or does the worst things". Then the writer categorizes this word as society slang because this word shows the world and life characteristics that belong to the characteristics of society slang. The world in the script shows the place; from the script, take a place on the street outside of the Ultimate Skate Shop, skating outside the shop. They are cracking jokes and laughing at each other's expense the whole time lovingly. Fourth grade films them doing their tricks. Jorge lands a perfect trick. Jorge tries to loo at the playback. Fourth grade whips the camera away. In this part, speaker Fuckshit said the word *sloppy*." The writer classifies the word *sloppy* as the society slang based on the characteristics of the word connected to theories and the sentence of the script.

### b. Workmen's Slang

The setting was the Ultimate Shop, a word often used by Ruben when he asked Stevie to buy his skateboard.

Below are the quoted conversations:

Ruben: I'll sell you my used setup for 40 bucks.

Steve: Don't you need your board?

Ruben: I'm saving up for an ultimate board.

The writer compares the common term and the slang term for the word *bucks* that he has seen in the dictionaries. In common usage, the word *bucks* means "dollar.". And in slang terms from the quoted conversation above, the writer assumes that the word bucks is often used by Ruben in the movie, and this word is familiar to the speaker in this movie. This word *bucks*, means "Money". Then the writer categorizes this word as workmen's slang because this word is used by people's activities in the Ultimate shop, where Ruben was in conversation with Stevie and they tried to make a deal. The writer classifies the word *bucks* as workmen's slang based on the characteristics of the word connected to theories and the sentence script.

### **c. Public House Slang**

The setting of this word was in Angela's living room, when Jorge was proud of Stevie and Stevie felt like a man.

Below is the quoted conversation:

"Stevie is drunk but continues to drink more. Jorge watches Stevie drink more. Smiling at getting Stevie Fucked Up for the first time."

JORGE: You fucked up, huh?

"Stevie smiles and nods his head."

Jorge: You know it's only getting better from here. Only getting better and bigger,yo.

JORGE: You, my homie, lil homie.

The writer compares the common term and the slang term for the word homie that he has seen in the dictionaries. In common usage, the word Homie means "what a young boy might call his most trusted friend" and in slang terms from the quoted conversation above, the

word Homie means "best friend.". As the writer described in Chapter 2, the reasons for using slang to make a close friend between Jorge and Stevie The writer classifies the word Homie as the public house slang based on the characteristics of the word connected to theories and the setting of the script.

#### **D. Conclusions**

After analysing research findings, the writer wants to draw some conclusions about the slang language used in the Mid90s movie that was produced by Jonah Hill's company and directed by Jonah Hill.

As the writer proposed in the theoretical background and research findings, the writer concludes that the slang used in the movie above can be classified into society slang ,workmen's slang, and public house slang. These three types of slang can be found in the movie scripts of the Mid90s movie. Slang words or phrases have been written in the text, such as sloppy, kickflip, ollie, slammed, tail, 5-o, wack, faggot, bucks, ton, homie, son, baby, kid, dog, and so on.

. From the slang types that the writer mentioned above, society slang was the slang language that was most often used in the movie. Because this movie takes place in places closely connected with society, They make their relationship with the people around them closer. Then they spontaneously create new words that they can use to approach their relationship. They use informal words or phrases that tend to originate in subcultures within a society. People in society considered slang language a new fashion or trend. They have created their own words and phrases that can only be understood by their own groups to enrich the language in society.

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