

**CHAPTER IV**  
**DATA ANALYSIS AND RESEARCH FINDING**

This chapter presents the data analysis and the research findings. The discussion is based on the statement of the problems in Chapter I, that is: 1. What is the difference between male and female Twitter users in terms of word choice? 2. What taboo words are more likely used by male or female Twitter users? 3. In what context do those taboo words used by both male and female appear?

**4.1 Taboo Word Choice Differences Used by Both Male and Female**

**Twitter Users**

In his article Jay (2009) suggested 15 ever-present taboo words (see Chapter 3 – 3.5 The Selection of the Data) and among of these the top ten of them (taboo words #1-10) have remained stable over the past 20 years and account for 80% of public swearing. Since Jay’s claim is so convincing, the data of this research are then matched with Jay’s list of taboo words.

The matching data are split under labels ‘male’ and ‘female’ to see whether or not there are differences between taboo words uttered or tweets by male and female Twitter users. It is found that male and female Twitters users choose different words in expressing their utterances or tweets. The findings are put in the table below.

**Table 4.1 Male and Female Taboo Word Choice**

No.	Taboo Words	Male	Female
1.	F**k, f**king	✓	✓
2.	S**t, B*lls**t	✓	✓
3.	H**l	✓	✓
4.	D**n, G*dd**n	✓	✓

No.	Taboo Words	Male	Female
5.	Jesus Christ	-	-
6.	A*s, A**hole	✓	✓
7.	Oh my god	✓	-
8.	B**ch	✓	✓
9.	S**ks	-	✓
10.	C*nt	-	✓
11.	C**ks**ker	-	-
12.	Nigger	✓	✓
13.	Motherf**ker	-	-
14.	P*ss	-	-
15.	R****rd, r****ded	-	-
16.	D**k	✓	-
17.	G**h	-	✓
18.	D**b	-	✓
19.	B**st	✓	-

From the table above it is found that taboo words like *f\*\*k*, *s\*\*t*, *h\*\*l*, *d\*\*n*, *a\*\*hole*, *b\*\*ch*, and *nigger* are used by both male and female. *Oh, my God* (*OMG*), *d\*\*k* and *b\*\*st* are used by male only whereas *s\*\*ks*, *cunt*, *g\*\*h* and *d\*\*b* are uttered by female only. *Jesus Christ*, *c\*\*ks\*\*ker*, *motherf\*\*ker*, *p\*ss*, and *r\*\*\*\*ded* do not appear in the data of this research, but taboo words #16-19 *D\*\*k*, *G\*\*h*, *D\*\*b*, and *B\*\*st* emerge though they do not exist in Jay's list of taboo words.

It is clear now that male and female Twitter users tend to choose different words at some time but at some other time they tend to use the same or similar words. According to Sapiro (1986:270) women and men use slightly different vocabularies. He further states that they use the different specialized vocabularies because of the different experiences women and men have and the different training they receive.

The above findings are also supported by Uchida in Mizokami (2003) that a look at any transcribed text may reflect whether an utterance is made by male or female without listening to the voice (See Chapter II – 2.2.2 Word Choice). Therefore, without listening to the speaker, we can directly differentiate men or women language because of the way and choice of word that makes it sense of them.

Sometimes in a certain occasion male and female tend to use similar or the same wording in their communication. Table 4.1 proves that women also use taboo words in their communication or talks though in different varieties such as *s\*\*k*, *c\*\*t*, and *d\*\*b*. Uchida in Mizokami states that the difference about women and men talk can be traced without looking at the speaker since in fact women also use taboo words in their talks. In line with Uchida in Mizokami, Coates (1986:19) argued that oaths, exclamations, and taboo words are anything which could come under the general heading 'vulgar language' and it is more frequently used by men than women. Since every thing related to women are more ladylike, then, it is very taboo for women to use the vulgar words. These arguments are totally not supported by the findings of this research. So, it can be inferred that

women also use taboo words when they are talking or communicating – when they are expressing their feelings in public such as in Twitter.

#### 4.2 The Taboo Words Likely Used by Male and Female Twitter Users

Based on the findings in Table 4.1 while matching it with the list of Jay's taboo words (2009), the preference of taboo words used by male and female is counted and presented in the table as follows.

**Table 4.2 The Preference of Taboo Words**

No.	Taboo Words	Male	Female	Remark
1.	F**k, f**king	9	4	Uttered more by male
2.	S**t, B*lls**t	4	4	Uttered equally by male and female
3.	H**l	1	1	Uttered equally by male and female
4.	D**m, godd**m	3	2	Uttered more by male
5.	Jesus Christ	0	0	Not uttered by both male and female
6.	A**, A**hole	4	3	Uttered more by male
7.	Oh my god	2	0	Uttered more by male
8.	B**ch	3	3	Uttered equally by male and female
9.	S**ks	0	1	Uttered more by female
10.	C*nt	0	1	Uttered more by female
11.	C**ks**ker	0	0	Not uttered by both male and female
12.	Nigger	3	1	Uttered more by male
13.	Motherf**ker	0	0	Not uttered by both male and female

No.	Taboo Words	Male	Female	Remark
14.	P**s	0	0	Not uttered by both male and female
15.	R***rd, r***rded	0	0	Not uttered by both male and female
16.	D**k	1	0	Uttered more by male
17.	G**h	0	1	Uttered more by female
18.	D**b	0	2	Uttered more by female
19.	B**st	1	0	Uttered more by male
<b>Total</b>		<b>31</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>Male uttered more taboo words than female</b>

Observing the table above it can be concluded that male Twitter users tend to curse more often than female Twitter users. Table 4.2 above shows that male frequency is thirty one (31) and female is twenty three (23). These frequency are shown to prove that eventhough female also use taboo words in their talk, male are more often to use taboo words. This is also claimed by Jay (2009:156) by saying that men swear more frequently in public than women.

Besides, the words *f\*\*k* and *s\*\*t* are uttered most often i.e. around one-third of the occurrence by both male and female. Male use them as many as 13 out of 31 and female 8 out of 23 occurrences. This finding is in line with Jay's finding (2009:156).

### 4.3 The Context of Those Taboo Words Used by Both Male and Female

#### Twitter Users

After finding the kinds of words used by both male and female and the perspective in using those words, then it will be described the situation or the goals in which those words are used by both male and female. In this case, some words used by both male and female are taken to be analyzed for the sake of gender comparison. To know the underlying situation, this research use Narrative Analysis stated by Hancock in *Trent Focus Group: An Introduction to Qualitative Research* (1998:17) and Narrative analysis focuses on speech and content, such as grammar, word usage, story themes, meaning of situations, the social (*sich*), cultural and political context of the narrative. Therefore, by using narrative analysis the situation in which a word appeared can be predicted from the content, such as word usage and meaning of situation in the talking.

Mills (2003:165) supports this statement. She quotes Lakoff and Spender:

Women's language style was further characterized by the use of elements such as hedges, tentativeness, tag-questions which seemed to signal indirectness, mitigation, diffidence, and hesitation. In contrast to this, male speech was characterized as direct, forceful, and confident, using features such as direct, unmitigated statements and interruption.

Talking about the goals or situational in using taboo words, according to Lancker in Jay (2009:155), he stated that

Reason for using or not using taboo words depend on the conversational goals of the speaker. Swearing is like using the horn, which can be used to signify a number of emotions (e.g. anger, frustration, joy, surprise). Our control over swearing ranges from the spontaneous forms (e.g. habitual epithets), over which we seem to have little control, to the reflective forms (e.g. new obscene joke), where we take time to think about what to say.

That's why every people goals of conversational according to Lancker is different (e.g. f\*\*k and s\*\*t) between male and female since they have difference goals of uttering those words such as for uttering anger, frustration, joy, surprise, etc. Male goal is to show joy but female to show anger.

Similarly, Jay (2009:155) argues that besides literals or denotative uses (*We Fucked*), the primary use of swearing is for emotional connotation, which occurs in the form of epithets or as insults directed toward others. Epithets are offensive emotional outbursts of single words or phrases used to express the speaker's frustration, anger, or surprise (*Holy shit! Fuck me!*). He further argued that insulting form of taboo word use include name calling and put downs (*asshole, bitch*) and cursing or wishing harm on someone (e.g. *fuck off, eat shit and die*). He added that positive social outcomes are achieved by using taboo words in jokes and humor, social commentary, sex talk, storytelling, in-group slang, and self-deprecation or ironic sarcasm in order to promote social harmony or cohesion. The explanation of the situation in in which those words are used is as follows.

#### 4.3.1 F\*\*k, f\*\*king

Female tend to use *F\*\*k, f\*\*king* when they are angry, such as:



I never ask you for anything but when I do you can't even fucking do that.

Expand Reply Retweet Favorite More

She is angry or irk when she asks for one thing to someone but he cannot do that whereas she never asks for everything to her or him. Then in contrast to this male tend to use those words when they are not angry; such as:

Okay my header is fucking perfect know OMG 

Expand

He feels happy because his header is perfect knows. So, we can infer that the word *f\*\*k* or *f\*\*king* is used in different situation by both male and female.

#### 4.3.2 S\*\*t, Bulls\*\*t

The word *s\*\*t* or *bulls\*\*t* is used to express happiness of something being well and an anger of something being not well. The male data show these words in the happy or joy situation such as in the data below:

It's Friday I wanna party and fuck shit up

Expand

On the other hand, female mostly use those words to show anger as in the data below:

Ohhhh shit . That was deep . You go hard

Expand

#### 4.3.3 H\*\*l

The word *H\*\*l* is used to express their liking to something and they feel pleased when they see that thing. This is true for both male and female.

##### Male

Those fake Doritos chips are good as hell

##### Female

hell yeah babyguuh [pic.twitter.com/vnctmyeEwL](http://pic.twitter.com/vnctmyeEwL)



#### 4.3.4 D\*\*n, G\*dd\*\*n

In using the word *d\*\*n*, male and female are both cursing because they feel surprise and angry. In this case male and female are in equal condition or situation of using the word *d\*\*n*. Look at the example below:

##### Female

Damn people keep unfollowing me #notcool

Expand

##### Male

damnnn sexy AF

#### 4.3.5 A\*\*, A\*\*hole

Male and female use this word to mock somebody's action when they feel disturbed. They are mocking by using the same/similar word. The examples are as follows.

##### Male

Even nice guys gotta be assholes to get a chick to realize her place when she getting wreckless

Expand

##### Female


Nicki Manaj & that big ass !

Expand

#### 4.3.6 B\*\*ch

Male and female use this word to mock somebody because they are angry to her or him. They curse and mock by using the same word *B\*\*ch*. Look at the example below.

**Male**

Females Don't Fuck With Bitches Cause They Gossip. . . So  
 The LAST THING A Female Wants Is A Nigga That Runs His Mouth  
 Like A Bitch 

Expand

**4.3.7 Nigger**

This word is used to mock by both male and female. When they tend to mock people who are not good in their action, they judge them as a *nigger* or *niggas*. Look at the example below.

**Male**

niggas needa communicate more lol that simple

**Female**

wow wow wow can't fuck with these dirty ass niggas

Expand

The above analysis is in line with Jay's statement (2009:155) that using or not using taboo words depends on the conversational goal of the speaker. Further, he states that swearing can be used to signify a number of emotions such as anger, frustration, joy, and surprise.