SUBTITLING STRATEGIES OF TABOO WORDS IN "SEX EDUCATION TV SERIES SEASON 2"

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Abstract:

This research aims to identify the types of taboo words, to identify the functions of taboo, and to observe the subtitling strategy in the translation of taboo words in Indonesian subtitles in Sex Education Season 2 TV Series. The source of data in this research is the dialogue that contained taboo words in the English subtitle and the Indonesian subtitle script in the Sex Education TV Series season 2. The researcher uses the descriptive qualitative method. The first result of this study show there were 201 data can be classified as types of taboo words where the highest type is sexual activity 70 data (35%), and the lowest type is lavatory 38 data (19%). The second result shows the 201 data can be categorized as a function of taboo words where the highest type is surprise 60 data (30%), and the lowest type is joking 15 data (8%). The most common use of sexual activity taboo words is to express anger and/or frustration. Furthermore, the lavatory is commonly used to express surprise as well as to identify the descriptive-evaluative function. Furthermore, the author discovered 5 of 10 subtitling strategies in this study, which included expansion, paraphrasing, transfer, condensation, and deletion. The transfer strategy is the most frequently used in translated taboo words, while expansion is the least frequently used.

Keywords:
Subtitling strategy, type of taboo, function of taboo

INTRODUCTION

Taboo language refers to words and phrases generally considered inappropriate in particular contexts. They are not allowed to use since they can decrease moral values and contain sexual, religious, ethnic, or other sensitive information. Wardhaugh (2006) stated that "the word taboo is one of the ways used by the community to express an action or habit that is believed to be harmful to them, caused by behavior or attitudes that does not obey the moral rules." Thus, language is used as a way to avoid speech related to the violation of moral values in certain things in society. Furthermore, the taboo word can use to express not only anger or cursing, but also familiarity, surprise, or pleasure. Since taboo words can produce multiple expressions, it has become a phenomenon for culture to express in a language in society. For example, in Indonesia, not prevalent to use taboo words as everyday language. Indonesia grips a high value on religious matters and has a

sensitive sight on that terms (Usman et al., 2017). Taboo words expressed in the source language culture in translating them may have different meanings in Indonesian, depending on the context used. Therefore, it is challenging for translators to gain a better understanding of cultural background in the target language.

The phenomenon of taboo words is found in several sources such as films, song lyrics, social media, and TV series. When translating the phenomenon words of taboo, an appropriate translation strategy is required, especially when translating subtitles. For translating taboo words, there is a subtitle strategy. For instance, the source language (SL), *"Fuck you!"* translated into the target language (TL) as, *"Persetan kau!"* the word *'fuck'* can be categorized as taboo words since it related to sexual activity or it is only used to express anger or swearing. In the TL, *'fuck'* translated into *'persetan'* which means exclamations to say you don't want to know any more or it is can be categorized as a swearing word which usually used by TL people when they get annoyed.

On the other hand, most of the previous researchers conducted their research to find the types of taboo words and the function of taboo words from a sociolinguistic view. As well as research on the translation of taboo words using translation techniques and subtitling strategies. There have been many previous studies that discussed the types and functions of taboo words and the translation of taboo words as has been done by Abidin (2020), Fahdlil (2016), Kusumaningsih (2019), Kurniawati & Hardjanto (2019), Lestari et al. (2019), and Lubis (2020). Abidin (2020) found a majority of the characters in Scorsese's Casino movie use epithets and obscenities to insult. While the expansion strategy is the dominant strategy used by the translator to translate those taboo words, the impact of applying the subtitling strategy is that the level of offensiveness of taboo words is still delivered into the target language. Fahdlil (2016) found epithets are the most commonly taboo words used in The Hateful Eight movie. He also found that transfer is the most generally used subtitling strategy. Kusumaningsih (2019) found most common types of taboo words are private parts of the body and sexual activity, while religion has the fewest. Also, the most common function is to insult, while the smallest is to ask a surprising question. Besides, there are three reasons for the use of taboo words in the film, which the most common is a psychological condition, while the least common is a social class. Kurniawati & Hardjanto (2019) found scatological terms are the most commonly used taboo words. Mental and physical terms are the least used. Furthermore, religious swearing is the most used by teenage characters and physical swearing is the least common. Lestari et al. (2019) found the most common taboo word used by some characters in this research is obscenity. Besides, private parts of the body are the most common type of swear word in this research. Correspondingly, the highest function is to draw attention. In addition, the swear word that is most frequent in the movie is the swear word to auxiliary (the lazy swear). In addition, the reason for using taboo words and swearing words are psychology and social class also there was a correlation between taboo and swear words. Lubis (2020) found the most frequently used is sex term and the least is left hand. The findings show that the characters use taboo words mostly to draw attention to themselves.

Based on the explanation above, this research conducts the type of taboo word based on Swan (2005) theory, to find out the function of taboos word based on Jay (1992) theory, and also what is subtitling strategies that use a taboo word in Indonesian subtitle

translation by using Gottlieb (1992) theory in Sex Education Season 2 TV Series. The main reason for doing this research is because research on taboo words is still quite taboo to do and the researcher chose Sex Education TV Series Season 2 because this tv series has never been analyzed yet before and this tv series contains many taboo words spoken in a formal environment such as school by the characters in their daily lives.

According to Shuttleworth & Cowie (1997), subtitling is the process of providing synchronized captions for film and television dialogue. Furthermore, Gottlieb (as cited in Ghaemi & Benyamin, 2011) defines subtitling as "the process of rendering a verbal message in filmic media in a different language, in the form of one or more lines of written text displayed on the screen in sync with the original verbal message." Based on these definitions, subtitles are one or more lines of written text displayed on the screen in sync with the original verbal message. Furthermore, the translator is not only concerned with producing a good translation, but also with paying attention to subtitle constraints such as time and space, subtitle reduction and deletion, punctuation, spoken language, linguistic factors, and spelling.

Gottlieb (1992) classified ten strategies in translating the subtitles. First, expansion is used when the original text requires an explanation since some cultural nuance is not retrievable in the target language. Second, the paraphrase strategy is resorted to in cases where the phrasing of the original can not be reconstructed in the same syntactic way in the target language. Then, transfer refers to the strategy of translating the source text completely and accurately. Also, imitation maintains the same forms, typically with names of people and places. Afterwards, transcription is used in those cases where a term is unusual even in the source text, for example, the use of a third language or nonsense language. Then, dislocation is adopted when the original employs some sort of special effect. Furthermore, condensation would seem to be the typical strategy used, that is, the shortening of the text in the least obtrusive way possible. Besides, decimation is an extreme form of condensation where perhaps for reasons of discourse speed, even potentially important elements are omitted. In addition, deletion refers to the total elimination of parts of a text. The last one is resignation describes the strategy adopted when no translation solution can be found and meaning is inevitably lost.

Besides, there are four types of taboo words such as religion, parts of the body, sexual activity, and lavatory. Religion is a type taboo word because it refers to a sacred belief in society, but it becomes taboo because many people use these words 'carelessly,' which may be out of surprise or annoyance. *God, Christ, Jesus,* and *Hell* are examples of this type of religion. Parts of the Body is a type of taboo word that mentions parts related to the genitals. Examples of taboo words from the parts of the body type are *Arse, Arshole, Bollocks, Cock, Tits, Twat,* etc. Sexual Activity is a type taboo word related to the terms sexual intercourse, oral sex, sexual climax, masturbation, etc. The use of sexual activity is used to express one's emotions at that time. However, when the word is used in public, many people will interpret it as impolite. The lavatory is a type of taboo word that refers to the removal of bodily waste (which a person does in the restroom), and body parts that are also considered as dirty. Frequently they are replaced by more 'polite' words and expressions with the same meaning (e.g., urinate, defecate) or replacements (e.g. going to the toilet, washing hands). Examples of this type of taboo words are *Fart, Piss, Shit,* etc (Swan, 2005).

Furthermore, according to Jay (1992), there must be a reason why certain words are chosen to convey meaning in everyday conversation. People use forbidden words in their speech for a variety of reasons. The context of the speech determines why the word taboo is used. Jay (1992) classified people's reasons using taboo words based on this. To begin, anger and/or frustration were combined due to the difficulty of distinguishing these emotions solely through language. The descriptive evaluative category was then used to indicate whether the speaker describes the objects and events around the camp connotatively or denotatively. For example, the expression *"this game sucks"* is an evaluation of the baseball game; while *"my sneakers are shitty"* is a denotative description after stepping in dog feces. Taboo words also intensify descriptions, for example, *"he beat the hell out of him"* indicated the level of physical energy used in the fight. There is also a joking category, which was used for formal joke frames or humor with taboo words. To make jokes and stories appear as funny as possible, obscenities were sometimes added. Furthermore, it is used to express surprise reactions to unexpected accomplishments, losses, or other behaviors. These are typical expletives, and they frequently involve religious terms. It is also used to express sarcastic irony or insults. This category included derogatory words and descriptions, such as *"you fag"* or *"scum face."*

METHOD

The researcher analyzed the data in this research using a descriptive qualitative method. According to Bogdan & Biklen (2007), qualitative research is a kind of descriptive research. Rather than numbers, the information gathered is in the form of words or visuals. To illustrate and substantiate the presentation, the written results of the research include excerpts from the data. Among the documents are interview transcripts, field notes, photographs, videotapes, personal documents, memos, and other official records. The researcher employed Sex Education Season 2 TV Series, an English teen drama written by Laurie Nunn. This first episode of season 2 was released on January 17th, 2020 on Netflix and directed by Ben Taylor in the United Kingdom. This teen drama consists of 8 episodes, each of which is 49-60 minutes long. The data of this research supported in form of taboo words or phrases in Sex Education Season 2 TV Series. The data for this study was taken from the dialogue in the English subtitle script, which will serve as the source language and the Indonesian subtitle script as the target language that shows taboo words used by the characters in the Sex Education TV Series Season 2 as the primary data.

Besides, the researcher did several steps for collecting the data. The first step is watching Sex Education TV Series Season 2 on the website. Afterward is downloading both English and Indonesian subtitle script of the series to ease the writer to obtain the taboo words. Also, mark and highlight the dialogue that contains taboo words in each episode of the series. Furthermore, the researcher does several steps for analyzing the data. The researcher identified and classified data of the type of taboo words shown in the dialog subtitle script of Sex Education TV Series Season 2. Second, the researcher identified and classified the function of taboo words shown in the dialog subtitle script of the series. Third, the researcher identified and classified the data of subtitling strategy of taboo words shown in the dialog subtitle script of the series. Moreover, the writer interpreted the findings result of the data. The last is the writer concludes the research.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION
Types and Functions of Taboo Words
There were 201 data that the researchers found and analyzed. It consists of the types and functions of taboo words. The researcher found four types of taboo words, including religion which had 42 data, parts of the body had 51 data, sexual activity had 70 data, and lavatory had 38 data. Through terms of the function of taboo words, the researcher discovered five types of functions: anger and/or frustration had 53 data, descriptive-evaluative had 49 data, joking had 15 data, surprise had 60 data, and sarcastic irony/insults had 24 data. Separately category of taboo words is discussed in detail below.

Table 1 Types and Functions of Taboo Words

Types of Taboo Words	Data	Functions of Taboo Words				
		Anger and/or Frustration	Descriptive-Evaluative	Joking	Surprise	Sarcastic Irony or Insults
Religion	42	8	1	-	33	-
Parts of the Body	51	5	18	11	3	14
Sexual Activity	70	32	17	2	11	8
Lavatory	38	8	13	2	13	2
Total	**201**	**53**	**49**	**15**	**60**	**24**

Religion
Data 1
00:02:38,560 - 00:02:40,640 (E03.60)
Mr. Groff: Oh, __for God's sake__, Adam!

In literal meaning, the phrase '*for God's sake*' means used to emphasize requests or orders when you are angry or have lost patience (Cambridge Dictionary). Based on Jay (1992), commonly in surprise, there are religious terms. In the sample data above, the utterance spoken by Mr. Groff was surprised when he saw that his car seat was wet due to Adam forgetting to close the car window when he was washing Mr. Groff's car. Therefore, the phrase for God's sake can be categorized as a surprise function.

Parts of the Body
Data 2
00:43:29,720 - 00:43:31,120 (E04.99)
Ola: He's being such a __dick__.

In the data above, the term '*dick*' means men's genitalia, and it is classified as a part of body type taboo word. The data above is contained the function of sarcastic irony/insulting because the context of the dialogue is Ola and Lily are talking about Otis' behavior that makes Ola hurt, and she has cut ties with Otis. Ola insulted Otis with the word '*dick*' because of his treatment of Ola.

Sexual Activity
Data 3
00:23:01,080 --> 00:23:04,160 (E04.89)
Maeve: __Fuck__ being logical! There's a child missing, she could be hurt.

In the above, the sentence "Fuck being logical! There's a child missing, she could be hurt." is expressed by Maeve being annoyed that she entrusted her little sister to Otis but he didn't take good care of her and eventually Maeve's little sister disappeared. In this case, Maeve's expression using the word fuck with annoyance falls into the category of anger and/or frustration. Also, according to Cambridge Dictionary, the word fuck means "used when expressing extreme anger, or to add force to what is being said." Based on that, the word fuck can be considered to express anger and/or frustration.

Data 4
00:05:28,520 - 00:05:30,920 (E01.3)
Eric: Why are you __wanking__ so much? You've got a girlfriend now.

The word wank means to masturbate (Cambridge Dictionary). Thus, is categorized as sexual activity type of taboo word. In the context of the data above, Eric is asking Otis about Otis' sexual growth, and Otis can masturbate. Eric directly told Otis why he was masturbating. This statement is an example of a descriptive-evaluative since is to indicates why Otis is still masturbated, while he already has Ola as his girlfriend and Eric thought why he did not have sexual intercourse right away.

Lavatory
Data 5
00:25:56,360 - 00:25:58,160 (E06.128)
Jackson's Friend: he's not doing that gay Shakespeare __shit__.

The word *'shit'* means solid waste excreted from the intestines of a person or animal. Thus, this word can be categorized as the lavatory type of taboo word. The context of the data above illustrates the scene of Jackson Marchetti has entered Otis' house to attend a party. Later, one of his theater group mates told Jackson that there would be a rehearsal tomorrow. Unexpectedly, one of Jackson's swimming groupmates said, that Jackson did not do the theater. In this matter, he seemed to think that the musical theater held by his school was funny since he thought it was not suitable for Jackson, who was known for being a tough guy at school. In this context, he used the taboo word *'shit'* as a joke.

Subtitling Strategies of Taboo Words
The researcher found 5 out of 10 subtitling strategies translating taboo words in the Sex Education Season 2 TV Series. The subtitling strategies found included expansion with 1 data, 56 data paraphrase, 121 data transfer, 4 data condensation, and deletion of 19 data. The frequency and the distribution of the subtitling strategy of taboo words found in the series are shown in the table below:

Table 2 Subtitling Strategy of Taboo Words

Subtitling Strategy of Taboo Words	Data
Expansion	1
Paraphrase	56
Transfer	121
Condensation	4
Deletion	19
Total	**201**

Expansion
Data 6
00:39:22,800 - 00:39:23,640 (E01.36)
SL : **_Bitches!_**
TL : **_Wanita jalang!_**

The word bitches is plural, the singular word of the word bitches is bitch and it has the meaning of a female dog or an unkind or unpleasant woman (Dictionary Cambridge). The translation of the word *"bitches!"* into TL can be *"wanita jalang!"*. The meaning of the word *"wanita"* is a woman and *"jalang"* means a mischievous woman. In the context of the data above, Jamine called Martha and Gwen '*bitches.'* Likewise, in the TL it becomes *"wanita jalang!"* the translator adds the word *"wanita"* to emphasize information.

Paraphrase
Data 7
00:22:23,800 --> 00:22:25,680 (E02.47)
SL : **_My God._**
TL : **_Astaga._**

In literal, the phrase *'My God'* is used to emphasize how surprised, angry, shocked, etc. in informal language. When translated into the TL, the phrase means *"Tuhanku."* However, the translator translated the phrase as *"Astaga"* which means to express astonished. In the context of the data above, Otis and Eric are at the night market and they are talking about Otis and Ola's relationship which has increased in terms of sexuality. Then, Eric responded to Otis' words with surprise and said *'My God.'* Based on this, the translator uses a paraphrasing strategy in translating the phrase *'My God'* into *"Astaga"* since it can be replaced as an exclamation of surprise, and the meaning is still conveyed.

Transfer
Data 8
00:29:52,440 - 00:29:55,240 (E06.131)
SL : and I cannot have an unclean **_arsehole_**, *okay?*
TL : dan aku tak bisa punya **_lubang pantat_** *kotor, paham?*

The taboo word *'arsehole'* which is a type of part of the body and in the SL means 'the anus' (Oxford Learner's Dictionaries) is translated into the TL into *"lubang pantat"* which has the same meaning as the word 'anus.' Therefore, the translation of the word *'arsehole'* in the SL into *"lubang pantat"* is translated precisely and accurately in the TL. In other words, the strategy used by the translator in translating the taboo word is a transfer strategy. In the context of the data above, Anwar talks to Otis because he believes Otis can give him advice on how to have sex properly.

Condensation
Data 9
00:25:48,720 - 00:25:50,720 (E01.23)
SL : Your promises **_don't mean shit_** *anymore, Erin.*
TL : Janjimu **_tak berarti_** *lagi, Erin.*

In that sentence, the phrase *'don't mean shit'* is translated into the TL as *"tak berarti."* In this matter, the translator does not translate the word *'shit'* which is a taboo word in the SL into the TL. However, the word *'shit'* in the SL only emphasizes the phrase *'don't mean.'* Therefore, the translator only shortens the utterance of *'don't mean shit'* into *"tak berarti"* since without translating it, the meaning of the phrase is still conveyed properly according to the context in the scene. In the context of the data above, Maeve and Erin are talking where Erin promises Maeve that she will change her attitude. However, Maeve who didn't believe Erin just thought that her promise wasn't really serious.

Deletion
Data 10
00:29:59,040 - 00:30:01,760 (E03.74)
*SL : you are not my dad, and this is not a **fucking** family.*
TL : kau bukan ayahku dan ini bukan keluarga.

The taboo word *'fucking'* in the SL is not translated into the TL. Therefore, the data above can be categorized as a deletion strategy in which the translator does not translate it, and it does not reduce the message in the translation. The meaning of the word *'fucking'* shows the anger by Otis's expression at that time. In the context of the data above, Otis's annoyance towards Jakob seems to be behaving like his father.

CONCLUSION
From the discussion above, the writer found four types of taboo words based on the Sex Education TV Series Season 2 script, which consisted of religion, parts of the body, sexual activity, and lavatory. Based on the type of taboo word, sexual activity is the most common type of taboo word in this research. The most frequent usage of sexual activity type of taboo words is to express anger and/or frustration and the least common is joking used in Sex Education TV Series Season 2. Then, parts of the body are the second-highest type found in this research. Descriptive-evaluative which is described connotatively or denotatively in the taboo words based on the context of the situation is the most frequent function found in this type of taboo word. The least used for expressing anger and/or frustration and surprise. Afterward, religion type of taboo word. This type of taboo word found a lot to express surprise that experienced to characters in the tv series. However, the least function found in this type is descriptive-evaluative. Moreover, the least type is the lavatory. This type of taboo word is generally used to express surprise and as the representation of the descriptive-evaluative function. The least common found is for sarcastic irony or insults and also joking.

Furthermore, the writer found five out of ten subtitling strategies in this research which consisted of transfer strategy is the most frequently used in translated taboo words in this research. Based on this, the translator can translate taboo words from SL to TL accurately. Then, the translator can convey the meaning appropriately so that it sounds natural in TL. This can be seen from the number of descriptive-evaluative functions found in SL are taboo words and the translator can translate into TL with taboo words as well. In addition, the least found is in expressing jokes, however, the translator still translates taboo words in SL into TL well and can be accepted. Paraphrase strategies are also highly found in this research. In this strategy, the translator changes the structure of words in TL a lot in

expressing surprise, so that the meaning of taboo words from SL can be conveyed properly. Also, the least is a joking expression. Afterward, deletion strategy is also found in this research. The translator deletes several taboo words in expressing anger and/or frustration and the less common is in joking also sarcastic irony or insults functions. Likewise, the second that least amount found is condensation and expansion strategies. In the expansion strategy, only found to express sarcastic irony or insults, in which case the translator adds information in TL so that taboo words in SL can have the same meaning as in the TL. Meanwhile, in the condensation strategy, the translator shortened the taboo words from SL to TL in expressing the descriptive-evaluative, anger and/or frustration, and surprise functions. However, the meaning of taboo in the SL is conveyed well in the TL.

This research is limited to the investigation of the type and function of taboo words, and to find out the subtitling strategy is used in translating taboo words in Sex Education TV Series Season 2. The further researcher can still analyze other subjects, such as analyzing the type and function with other theories or analyzing about shifting and unshifting meaning or function in translation.

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