

Impoliteness Strategies of Dr. Phil in “Monster-In-Law Khalood”

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ABSTRACT

This objective of this research is to identify and describe and explain the kinds of impoliteness strategies used in Dr. Phil talk show. The data used is the utterances of Philip Calvin McGraw in Dr. Phil talk show. then, the data is collected and identified will be analyzed using the theory of (Culpeper, 1996). The research method used is the descriptive qualitative research method. The techniques of collecting the data in this research will be conducted as the following. The researcher watched Dr. Phil talk show, the researcher takes note of the utterances that contain impoliteness strategies in Dr. Phil talk show, the researcher checked the accuracy of the script with the spoken utterances in Dr. Phil talk show, the researcher then accumulates all the data that contain impoliteness strategies that will be analyzed. The researcher will analyze the data based on the theory explored. The researcher will classify the data into five kinds of impoliteness strategies as proposed by (Culpeper, 1996). The researcher will identify the type of impoliteness strategy in each data and the response to the impoliteness strategy used. There were 9 utterances used as the data and the types of impoliteness strategies used was the positive politeness strategy and sarcasm or mock politeness strategy.

Key words: Impoliteness Strategies; Pragmatics; Talk show; Utterances

INTRODUCTION

(Culpeper, 1996) states that impoliteness strategies are used by means to hurt someone's face and it can arouse a disagreement between people. The use of impoliteness strategies can break the relationship between people and lead it to disputes. So, when someone uses an impoliteness strategy, it can be assumed that he or she intend to damage or attack the hearer's face.

The kinds of impoliteness strategies proposed (Culpeper 1996: 356) by can be observed in the interviews of Philip Calvin McGraw in the American talk show “Dr. Phil”. Dr. Phil is an American talk show created by Oprah Winfrey and Philip Calvin McGraw as the host. Dr. Phil first debuted on September 16, 2002 and it has aired for 21 season with an average of 41-48 minutes per episode till May 25, 2023.

There are some impoliteness strategies found in the interviews of the Dr. Phil American talkshow related to the kinds of impoliteness strategies proposed by (Culpeper 1996: 356). Mostly the usage of the impoliteness strategies is used by Philip Calvin McGraw and is addressed to the guest invited to the show and also the response of the guest invited to the show.

The objective of this research is to describe the types of impoliteness strategies used in the show and explain the impoliteness strategies used in the process of interview, also to describe the response of the interviewer and interviewee's reaction to the impoliteness strategy used in the show.

This research is expected to improve the searcher's knowledge regarding impoliteness strategies proposed by (Culpeper 1996: 357). For the readers especially the students of English Literature, this research hopefully can deliver more knowledge about impoliteness strategies. Lastly, this research is expected to deliver information about impoliteness strategies that is used often so the readers will be aware of impoliteness strategies when participating in an interaction.

LITERATURE REVIEW

Previous Related Study

There are a few research related to impoliteness. (Wendy & Rudianto, 2022) have discussed about one of the impoliteness strategies which is the negative impoliteness. In the research of negative impoliteness strategy by (Wendy & Rudianto, 2022), the negative impoliteness strategy is divided into types: affective, coercive, and entertaining.

(Primadianti, 2018) have also conducted research related to the impoliteness strategies proposed by (Culpeper, 1996: 357). They conducted the research by analysing the kinds of impoliteness strategies that is realized in the Paranorman movie.

(Roviana, 2018) also conducted research related to impoliteness strategies entitled Impoliteness Strategies in American TV Series "Bones" Season 2 Episode 1-3. The result of the research shows that the "Bones" TV series includes several negative impoliteness: affective, coercive, and entertaining impoliteness.

The Variables

There are five strategies of impoliteness as proposed by (Culpeper 1996: 355-356) as in the following. First, the bald on record impoliteness that is used executed in situations where face is not irrelevant or minimized in a direct, clear, straightforward, and brief manner. The difference between this tactic and Brown and Levinson's Bald on Record is that Bald on record, according to Brown and Levinson, is a courtesy tactic in a certain condition. For instance, when the threat

to the hearer's face is minimal (such as when the speaker says, "Come in" or "Do sit down"), when face concerns are suspended in an emergency, or when the speaker is far more powerful than the hearer (such as when a parent tells their child to "Stop complaining"). Little face is at stake in each of these situations, and more significantly, the speaker never intends to hurt the listener's appearance.

Second, (Culpeper 1996: 356) describes positive impoliteness as the impoliteness strategy that is used with the intention to attack the listener's positive face, the positive face that someone use to be acknowledged as a part of the society. The usage of positive impoliteness is as such: ignoring, be unconcerned, disassociate from the other, and calling other with inappropriate names.

Third, (Culpeper 1996: 356) also states that negative impoliteness which is the opposite of positive impoliteness which is a strategy used with the intention of attacking the listener's negative face. The usage of negative impoliteness is as such: frighten, do not treat the others seriously, and explicitly associate the others with a negative aspect.

Fourth, (Culpeper 1996: 356) sarcasm is a form of threatening other's face. It is performed by using politeness strategy insincerely. Sarcasm is used to express the speaker's feeling but it is actually the opposite of how the speaker actually feels. The speaker may say that the recipient is beautiful today but the speaker meant to mock the recipient.

Fifth, (Culpeper 1996: 356) describes that the withhold politeness when someone a politeness act is expected but the speaker gave no response. The usage of withhold politeness is being silent, do not thank someone or apologize to someone.

METHOD

Design and Samples

This research will be using the descriptive qualitative research method which the researcher will describe the kinds of impoliteness strategies found in the Dr. Phil interviews. The data used in this research were the utterances spoken by Philip Calvin McGraw from Dr. Phil. This research will use the script of the dialogues which contain impoliteness strategies spoken by Philip Calvin McGraw as the data.

Instrument and Procedure

The techniques of collecting the data in this research will be conducted as the following: The researcher watched Dr. Phil television show, The researcher takes note of the utterances that contain impoliteness strategies in Dr. Phil, the researcher checked the accuracy of the script with the spoken utterances in Dr. Phil, the researcher accumulates all the data that contain impoliteness strategies that will be

analyzed. Lastly, the researcher will analyze the data based on the theory explored. The researcher will classify the data into five kinds of impoliteness strategies as proposed by (Culpeper 1996). The researcher will identify the type of impoliteness strategy in each data and the response to the impoliteness strategy used.

Data Analysis

The data will be analyzed by categorizing the utterances that contain bald on record impoliteness, positive politeness, negative politeness, sarcasm, and withhold politeness.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1) Impoliteness Strategies in Dr. Phil talk show

Negative Impoliteness

1. *Khalood : "Do you have daughters Dr. Phil?"
Dr. Phil : "I'll ask the question" [01:06-01:09]*

In this scene, the impoliteness strategy implemented by Dr. Phil is **negative impoliteness** as he ignored the guest and when she was asking a question and Dr. Phil stated that he is the only one who can ask questions implying he does not treat the guest seriously.

2. *Dr. Phil : "That's okay, we just turned their mics off. Go ahead." [02:07-02:10]*

In this utterance, the impoliteness strategy implemented by Dr. Phil is also the **negative impoliteness** strategy. In the scene of this utterance, there were quite a few people arguing when Dr. Phil is trying to talk to one of the guest. Dr. Phil then implies that he will forcefully turn off their microphones off so he could speak comfortably with one of the guest which is an act where Dr. Phil did not treat the other guests seriously.

3. *Dr. Phil : "Well hold on a minute, you haven't gained my respect and i don't call u a dumbass" [04:10-04:13]*

In this utterance, the impoliteness strategy implemented is also the **negative impoliteness strategy** as Dr. Phil directly attacked the guest's negative face by saying that she hasn't gained his respect yet.

4. *Dr. Phil : "Do you think you're actually contributing something here by being obnoxious and rude." [06:45-06:51]*

In this utterance, the impoliteness strategy implemented by Dr. Phil is the **negative impoliteness** strategy as he associated the guest into something negative by saying that she is being obnoxious and rude.

5. *Dr. Phil : "Talk to me, don't get suck to the abyss, just talk to me" [13:31-13:35]*

In the scene of this utterance, there were other guest trying to forcefully join the talk when Dr. Phil is talking to one of the guest. Dr. Phil implemented the **negative impoliteness strategy** by asking the guest he is talking to ignore the other guest that is trying to forcefully join the talk.

6. *Dr. Phil : "Despite the fact that she has what i think is an atrocious methodology..." [14:18-14:25]*

In this utterance, Dr. Phil implemented the **negative impoliteness** strategy as he associated the guest's way of thinking into something negative which made the guest look like an atrocious person.

7. *Dr. Phil: "Let me assure you, you didn't need any help from me looking obnoxious" [18:00-18:04]*

In this utterance, Dr. Phil implemented the **negative impoliteness** strategy by associating the guest into a negative aspect.

From nine data collected from the Dr. Phil talk show, there were seven of them that is categorized as negative impoliteness. This result shows that there were many usage of negative impoliteness in the Dr. Phil talk show.

2) Sarcasm or mock impoliteness

1. *Dr. Phil: "You can't even watch the tap piece without talking" [00:29-00:31]*

In this utterance, Dr. Phil implemented the **sarcasm or mock impoliteness** strategy by implying that the guest talks too much or is what we call a blabber mouth which end up being impolite.

2. *Dr. Phil: "I just wonder sometimes if your brain know what your mouth is saying" [09:55-09:59]*

In this utterance, Dr. Phil also implemented the **sarcasm or mock impoliteness** strategy by implying that the guest is someone who likes to harm other with their words because they speak without thinking first which also end up being impolite toward the guest.

The two data from nine data collected is categorized as sarcasm or mock politeness. This result shows that there were a few usages of sarcasm or mock politeness in the show which is much fewer than negative impoliteness.

CONCLUSION

From five kinds of impoliteness strategies, only two were found used in Dr. Phil. they are positive impoliteness and sarcasm or mock politeness. Bald on record impoliteness, negative impoliteness, and withhold politeness were not found used on the data we are using for this research. Each type of impoliteness strategy has their own form of usage. The Bald on record rudeness is demonstrated by the use of direct, clear, and statements that are not ambiguous. Positive impoliteness is used in the form of ignoring the others, excluding others from an activity, disassociate from the other, using inappropriate nicknames, using secretive language, or using a code only known in a group but not the target. However, negative impoliteness manifests itself in two ways: by directly associating the other with a bad quality while also being condescending, scornful, or ridiculing. Meanwhile sarcasm or mock politeness is used in the form of insincerely perform politeness strategies.

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