

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

<https://llrjournal.com/index.php/11>

**EVOLVING GENDERED LANGUAGE: A DIACHRONIC STUDY
USING “ALL IN THE FAMILY AND BROOKLYN 99”**



Fatima^{*1}

^{*1}Department of English National University of Modern
Languages Peshawar Campus

Abstract

This current research article aims to investigate the evolution of language use by gender over time and examines the impact of gender on communication. With societal advancements promoting gender equality in education, employment, and personal spheres, these changes have significantly influenced linguistic patterns. By analyzing the dialogue from two television series, All in the Family (1971) and Brooklyn 99 (2017), the research compares the language used across two distinct eras. The study critically evaluates Robin Lakoff's Deficit Theory, which posits that women's language is inherently weaker than men's, and aims to challenge its validity. Through a comparative analysis of the language used by male and female characters in both series, the findings highlight how shifting gender roles and cultural norms have influenced communication styles. This research underscores that language is not inherently tied to gender but is a dynamic construct shaped by context, audience, and societal progress.

Keywords: : Language and gender; Sociolinguistics, diachronic study, Language variation, Lakoff's Theory.

Introduction

Language and gender have been the center of discussion for many sociolinguists over time. According to some of them, differences in use of language by men and women depends upon the dominance or power relation while for others it is because of the roles assigned to both the genders in society. This can be seen in the prominent works such as the Deficit theory by Lakoff (1975) that considers female language inferior to male language and on the other hand the Dominance theory by Thorne (1975) according to which the language of females is superior and male language has its deficiencies. Men are usually considered to be the dominant ones having powerful roles and duties that suites their caliber and standard but women being weak are only seen as objects of beauty and example of mannerism whose only job is to fulfill the duties of their household and families. This concept has been inculcated in the minds of individuals and societies at large, since the beginning of time. According to Lakoff the style of language used by women “submerges a women’s personal identity, by denying her the means to express herself strongly and encouraging expressions that suggest triviality in subject matter and uncertainty about it” (Lakoff 1975:7). But in the world today, societies have gone through many changes. Women have now achieved more freedom and greater equality to men. Refined discourse about gender equality and prestigious roles of women in society has caused a great shift in the thought process related to gender. Women are less prone to discrimination against men and are less likely considered weak or as subordinates to men as compared to old times. Rather they are assigned with much important duties similar to men in most societies. This shift in the position and role of women has also affected their language use. In modern times differences between use of language between the genders have subsequently decreased. Women tend to use more assertive forms, slangs, modern abbreviations and terms and many other forms which were considered as language characteristics of men. Diachronic study sets out to analyze the factors involved in the changes in language use of gender over the years. It would be wrong to analyze language use solely on gender while ignoring, personality of the individual, context, brought up, region which are the most important factors.

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

The Deficit theory by Robin Lakoff (1975) points out deficiencies in women's speech and give certain attributes to their language. These attributes include hedging, tag questions, use of polite forms, indirect requests, hypercorrect grammar and pronunciation, use of empty adjectives. While this research focuses on the comparative analysis of language use by both genders in the series *All in the family* (1971) and *Brooklyn 99* (2017) and the main focus is to highlight the shift in language use of men and women between these years.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. What are the linguistic differences in discourse of men and women in the sitcoms *All in the family* and *Brooklyn 99*?
2. To what extent the language variation between men and women has lessened with time?

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES

1. To highlight the linguistic variations between discourse of men and women in both the sitcoms "*All in the family*" (1971) and "*Brooklyn 99*" (2017).
2. To explore the factors encouraging change in the language use of men and women in current times.

LITERATURE REVIEW

The connection between language and gender has been a key topic in sociolinguistics for many years. Early studies often described women's language as weaker or less powerful than men. One of the most well-known theories is Robin Lakoff's *Deficit Theory* (1975), which suggests that women's speech reflects their lower social status and is marked by features like hedges, tag questions, and polite language. While Lakoff's theory was important for starting the conversation about gender and language, it has been criticized for oversimplifying the issue and ignoring the role of social context. More recent research highlights that language use is influenced by social situations and cultural changes rather than being fixed to a specific gender. This study builds on these ideas by analyzing the language used in the TV series *All in the Family* (1971) and *Brooklyn 99* (2017) to show how changing views on gender roles have affected communication over time.

Valdimir Z. Jovanoic conducted research on whether gender causes a preference for periphrases in language usage. He analyzed gender and quantity wise research in different registers and genres i.e., fiction, non-fiction (scientific) and on the magazine articles. The focus of this study was to prove that gender is not the only factor to determine the preference for the periphrastic forms of the grammatical value. The most obvious result from this analysis was that in a million words female speakers/writers would use almost 50% more adjectives than male writers but the percentage varied in different types of registers. The periphrastic comparison was used by females 3% more than men. In fiction register it was proved that women used more periphrastic forms statistically than men did i.e., 85.7% women and 33.33% men. While in non-fiction register, scholarly articles male authors used periphrastic forms more than female authors i.e., 92.86% for men. It was concluded that both male and female authors expressed the same tendency for periphrastic adjective forms i.e., 77.14% women and 74.55% for men.

Susan Karlsson conducted an experiment to answer the possible question that whether it was possible to find differences between the male and female way of using language. She handed a written dialogue having certain attributes to test different theories regarding language and gender. She chose 80 students from a small town of north of Sweden at age of 14-17 for her experiment. These 80 participants read the dialogues with the supposed attributes and were later handed with a questionnaire having definite and open questions. The participants were asked to underline the particular attributes in the dialogue as male and female. Use of hedges and the expression "I felt

really so..." was connected by 30% of the females as female language attribute and 70% of males answered likewise. But other hedges in the dialogue had different results. As a result, hedges in general did not appear to be connected to female language especially not among females. Politeness in females especially the utterance "you might say please" reached a total 55% in females while only 37% males considered please connected to female language. When it came to interruption in a conversation 5% female members considered it as a male language attribute while 15% males answered likewise. Result of intensifiers such as 'so, 'such' as in the line 'such a nice boy' 52.5% among females as compared to 27.5% but it was not possible to draw a conclusion about the frequency of its usage. This study also focused on the types of conversations, sports magazine in dialogue was underlined by 5% of females while 17.5% among males.

Recent research has shed light on the complexity that arise when analyzing language through the prism of gender by delving into the subtleties of gendered language use. For example, S. K. Smith's (2018) study looked at how men and women spoke in professional contexts and their discourse patterns. Smith discovered that although women were frequently thought to speak in a more collaborative manner, the investigation showed that both sexes used comparable tactics, like consensus-building and aggressiveness, to accomplish professional objectives. This study challenges preconceived notions about female communication styles by highlighting the critical role context plays in understanding gendered communication and by illuminating the substantial influence of situational elements and professional dynamics on language use.

Furthermore, P. Eckert and S. McConnell-Ginet (2003) highlighted how social identity influences language preferences. According to their research, language is a tool people use to express and negotiate their social identities as well as a reflection of their gender. They contend that the relationship between gender and language use is complicated by the entanglement of gender with other social categories, including age, ethnicity, and class. This viewpoint supports the research of Jovanovich and Karlsson, which indicates that although gender affects language, it is only one of several interconnected elements that lead to linguistic diversity. Their findings demand a more thorough examination that takes into account the ways in which identity and social context interact to influence communicative practices.

New facets of gendered communication have also been uncovered by the investigation of language in digital situations. In his study of language use in chat rooms and online forums, C. Herring (2001) discovered that gendered patterns change in appearance between face-to-face interactions and virtual environments. According to Herring's research, communication dynamics can be changed by anonymity and physical absence, which frequently gives women the confidence to make more assertive statements. The results point to a potential further challenge to gendered language use norms in light of the growing prevalence of digital communication platforms. This suggests that previous theories, such as Lakoff's Deficit Theory, should be re-examined, and that future research on the effects of technology on gendered discourse should be encouraged. The need to constantly modify our frameworks in order to comprehend language in a sociocultural setting that is constantly changing is highlighted by this dynamic landscape.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Discourse of the sitcoms *All in the family* and *Brooklyn 99* is analyzed qualitatively and quantitatively. The analysis uses Robin Lakoff's Deficit theory which serves as the theoretical framework for this research. Data for this study is taken from both the sitcoms to highlight the subsequent decrease in language variation of men and women with time and the adoption of male attributes of language by the female members of the society. Conversations of characters from five episodes of both sitcoms are taken as sample for the comparative analysis. The data is

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

classifies based on points set out by Robin Lakoff in her theory to find out the increased use of male attributes of language by females and vice versa which is opposite to the description given by Lakoff.

THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The research will apply Robin Lakoff's Deficit Theory on the sitcoms *All in the family* and *Brooklyn 99*. This theory was presented by her in "Language and Woman's place" in 1975. She highlighted certain differences in language use of male and females in daily life. She pointed out certain features in male and female speech to show deficiencies in female language use.

some predominant features are as follows;

1. The use of words connected to women culture that are less likely to be present in men's vocabulary e.g., color terms, sewing terms, household activities. While men commonly use terms related to sports.
2. Use of empty objectives such as divine, charming.
3. Women use more tag questions as compared to men e.g., its cold today, isn't it?
4. use of hedges to avoid being assertive and direct for example kind of, sort of, could etc.
5. Use of intensifiers such as "so" in daily conversations.
6. Women use polite forms.
7. Women tend to apologize more often than men e.g. I'm sorry to disturb you at this hour.
8. Women use hyper correct grammar and pronunciation as compared to men.
9. Use of euphemistic language by women.

DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS

Lakoff's Theory fails to provide evidences for contexts of conversation and also doesn't take power relations among speakers into account. "This women's language along with its features is inaccurate and can be criticized from three different aspects. The first and the most important thing is that it has methodological problem and lacks of evidence.... Lakoff did not consider language use on its context, relative status of participants in interaction and power relation among speakers...." (Shohibussiri ,2016). This study provides evidences from the series *All in the family* (1971) and *Brooklyn 99* (2017) to highlight the attributes affiliated with female language by Lakoff not only in language of women but men as well. This paper also focuses on effects of modernization, awareness, equality among women over the years on their language use. As such, gender is an object of many sociolinguistic studies (Jespersen, 1922; Kramer, 1974; Edelsky, 1976; Thorne et al, 1983; Crawford, 1995) and is assumed not only to play a role in the pragmatics of language usage, but also to influence the frequency and nature of different lexical and structural realizations, resulting in what Kramer termed "a genderlect" (Kramer, 1974).

Following are some attributes discussed in detail;

1) Use Of Intensifiers

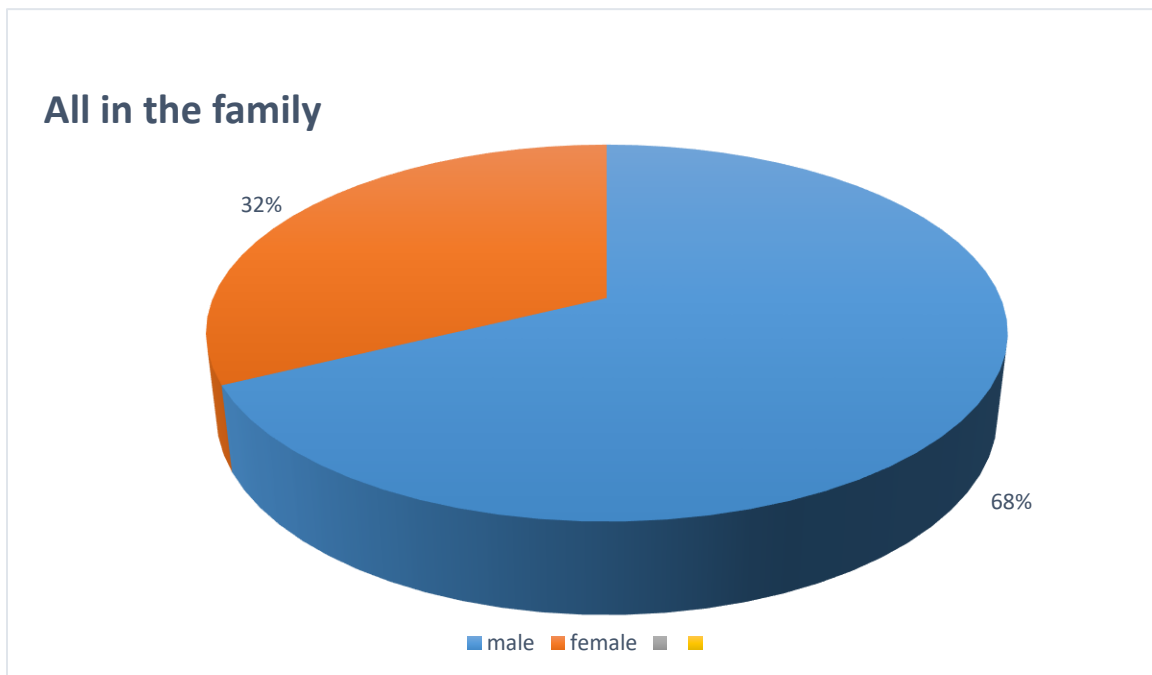
There are several intensifiers discovered in both the series. The number of intensifiers used in five episodes of *All in the family* (1971) is 16 while no of intensifiers used in five episodes of *Brooklyn 99* is 69. Use of intensifiers in the latter has increased significantly and results are different from the ones described in Lakoff's theory. The female character (gloria) uses 7 intensifiers in all in the family while the male (Archie) uses 8. Similarly, the male character (Jake)in *Brooklyn 99* uses 58 intensifiers and the female character (Gina)on the other hand uses only 11.

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

ARCHIE		GLORIA	
Absolutely	1	Any	1
Nearly	2	Too	1
Always	2	Real	2
So	2	Very	3
Very	5	So	2
Certainly	3	At all	1
At all	1		
Too	2		
Plenty	1		
Most	2		
Total	21	Total	10



For example, Gloria says”; I don’t have any time” and “I’ve got too much on my mind” to emphasize on her busy schedule. Similarly, Archie said “there was nothing, absolutely nothing “ and “you are a person of very little quality”.

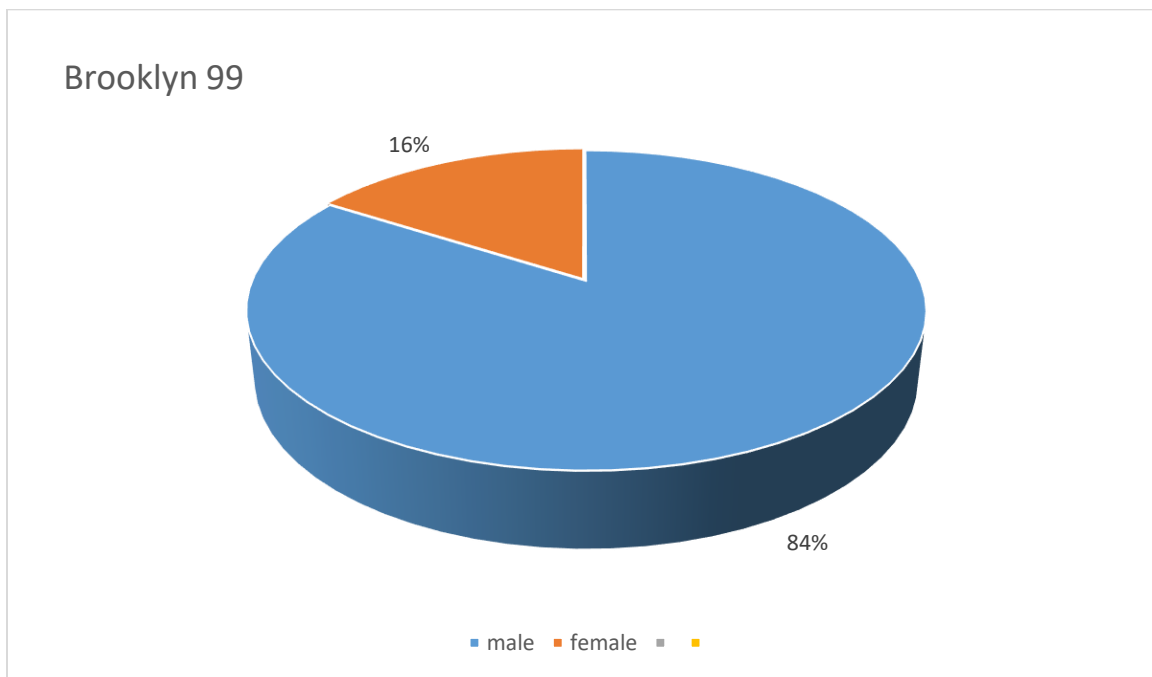
JAKE		GINA	
Pretty	8	pretty	1
Always	5	real	1
Totally	4	too	2
Too	1	so	3
Absolutely	2	really	1
Barely	1	almost	1

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

Actually	2	most	1
Definitely	4	Very1	
Extremely	1		
So	14		
Certainly	1		
Never	3		
Impossible	1		
Terribly	1		
Really	1		
Most	1		
Perfect	2		
Quitter	1		
Super	1		
Very	3		
Total	58	Total	11



In the case of Brooklyn 99 the male character i.e., Jake has a habit of using much more intensifiers than the female character i.e., Gina. Jake uses ‘so’ for almost everything as well as ‘pretty’ in formal and informal situations” for example he says ‘she’s gonna be so psyched’ and ‘I’m so sorry’ ‘I love you so much’, ‘pretty cool’ ‘pretty big night’.

2) Hedging

Hedging is also a linguistic feature used several times in both the series. 21 hedges were used in All in the family while Brooklyn 99 has 56 hedges used in five episodes. The male character uses

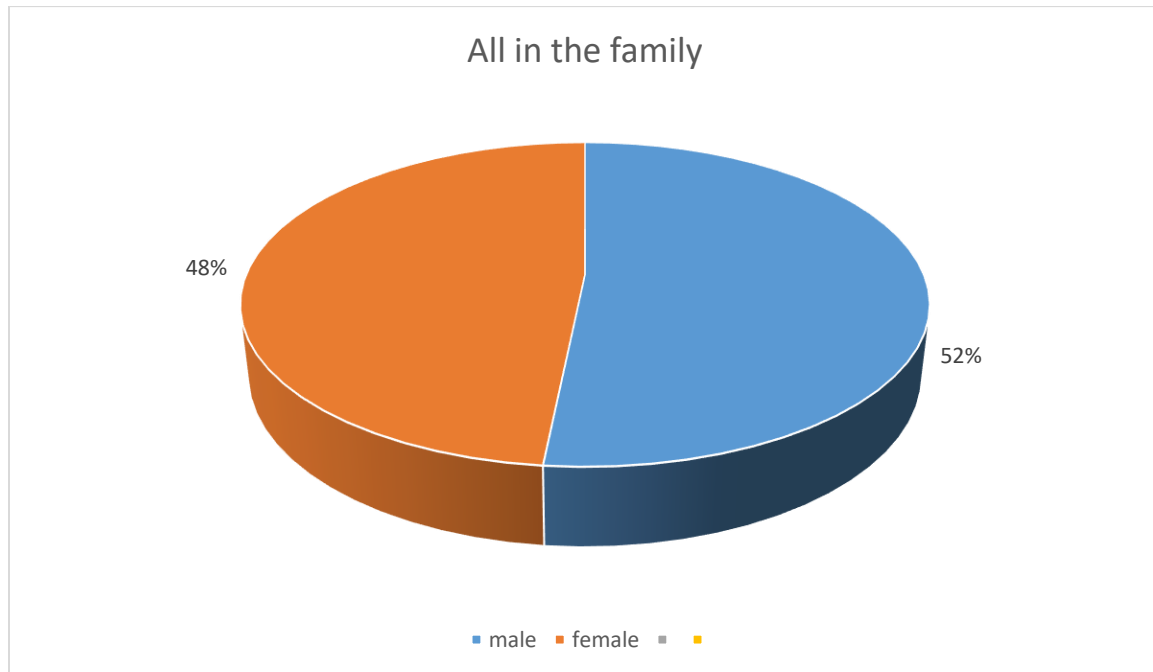
Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

10 hedges while the female uses 11 in the former however in the latter series 36 hedges and the female uses 12 hedges.

ARCHIE		GLORIA	
Could	1	can	2
Kind of	3	Kind of	1
I think	1	I think	4
Would you	1	Could you	2
Will you	1	Will you	1
Maybe	1	Just	6
Just	7		
Wondering	1		
Total	16	Total	15



According to Lakoff's theory women use more hedges to show uncertainty or for being less assertive but in this series the female character use hedges for the need of the conversation. For example, Gloria says; "I think its very today", here she is talking about a cosmopolitan magazine and is giving her opinion about it instead of showing uncertainty. Other examples such as "could you please help me with the can opener" and "could you help me set the table too" to be polite. Archie on the other hand used hedges like "will you stifle yourself", they're always actin kind of private"

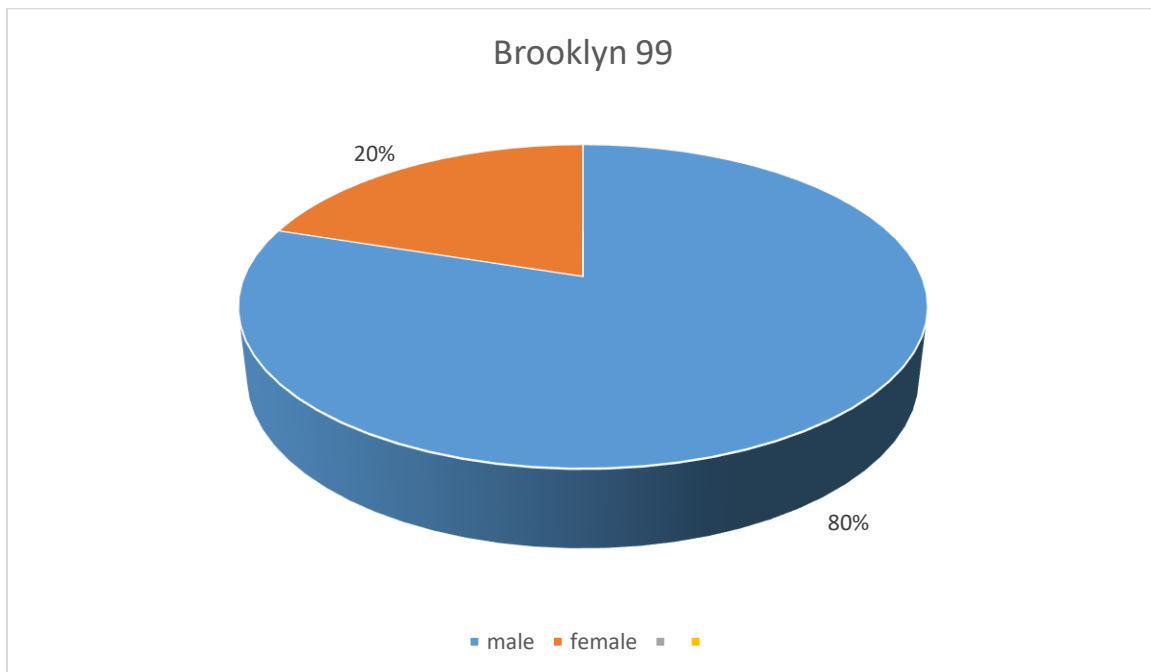
Whereas, in Brooklyn 99 the total number of hedges used is 70. Jake uses about 56 hedges while Gina only uses 14 hedges in five episodes. For example, Jake says "I think they're kind of cool", "we just got our first lead".

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

JAKE		GINA	
I think	4	I think	2
Kind of	3	Kind of	1
About to	3	Can	1
Just	26	Just	6
Can you	1	Would you	1
Like	3	Looks like	1
Looks like	1		
Seems like	2		
Could	2		
Maybe	5		
Probably	3		
Should I	1		
I guess	1		
I wonder	1		
Total	56	Total	14



3) Tag Questions

A tag question is a language item used by people which turns a statement into a question. According to Lakoff's theory tag questions are mostly used by females to show uncertainty. The data collected from the series also consist of many tag questions. The male characters in both the series uses just the same amount of tag questions as the female characters even more than them. In five episodes of All in the family Gloria uses tag question only four times. while Archie uses tag questions out of habit 12 times. For example, Gloria asks "it's different, isn't it?" not due to any uncertainty rather to keep the conversation going and Archie says "come over here, will ya?"

stifle yourself, will ya?”, “get me the yellow pages will ya?”, “just go on reading will ya?”. On the other hand, in the Brooklyn 99 use of tag question is much more increased in the language of the male character. The female character in the series doesn’t use a single tag question in 5 episodes on the other hand the male character uses tag questions several times in the series. For example, Jake asks “it’s funny, right?” for confirmation. Another example is when he says “you would never knowingly destroy public property, would ya?” he asks this because he is uncertain about the situation.

4) Use Of Polite Forms

As per the Deficit theory women use much polite forms as compared to men. This can also be seen in both of these series. The results may vary after analyzing the data as it is true for All in the family while in Brooklyn 99 the male character has used much polite forms as compared to the female character. Gloria in All in the family has used very polite forms containing the typical manners and lady like talk as per that time. She did not use any slang however Archie has used very harsh language in the series. Gloria uses language like “could you help me set the table” which is a polite request, also “daddy please be good” as in good to her friend who was visiting. Archie on the other hand has used harsh language as he calls his wife “dingbat”, “pip” he also calls his son in law a “meathead”. He also used sentences like “what the hell is up nowadays would you tell me” and he asks his wife “to stay the hell” out of things and also asks her to shut up a lot of times in a really harsh way.

The male character in Brooklyn 99 uses much politer forms as compared to the female character. For example, he was in a hurry to solve the case of a bank robbery but he still politely asked about the suspects criminal record saying “please file now, hurry!”. another example is when he wants his colleague to get out of the car because he was misbehaving, he asks him politely to leave by saying “please get out of the car “. Gina on the other hand uses a lot of slangs and harsher terms for her colleagues and other people around her. For example, she uses abusive words like wh*re, bitch etc. for example she calls her fellow colleagues’ losers, calls one of them stupid and she also compares a group of her cousins to “a beige of pigs”.

5) Use Of Empty Objectives

Empty objectives are one of the important attributes affiliated with women’s language. Lakoff in her theory has also highlighted this point that women use much more empty adjectives as compared to men. The use of adjectives can also be seen in the data collected by both the series not only in female language but in the male language as well. The male character in all in the family (Archie) has mostly used the adjective beautiful 3 times and his total use of adjectives in five episodes is five times. For example, he says “it’s been a charming interlude”, “it was beautiful”. However, the female character (Gloria) uses ten adjectives most of them is beautiful, wonderful. For example, she says its “beautiful Michel beautiful”, “you look wonderful mom”, “it’s wonderful to be involved”.

Brooklyn 99 on the on the other hand doesn’t have any sufficient examples of “empty adjectives” discussed by Lakoff in her theory.

6) Use Of Apologies

Apology is mostly the product of personality rather than gender. Lakoff in her Deficit theory claims that women use more apologies as compared to men. In the data collected by both the series contrary results can be observed. The male character in All in the family does not apologize even once in the five episodes but the female character as well only uses “pardon me” just to grab the attention of her friend by saying “pardon me Roger! you know my mother”. However,

the male character in Brooklyn 99 uses much more apologies as compared to the female character. Jake apologizes seven times in five episodes. He apologizes even for minor inconveniences for example he says ‘‘sorry! I’m late ‘’, he even apologizes to a woman who is a suspect for fraud in business ‘‘I’m so sorry you lost everything’’. While Gina apologizes only twice for example she says ‘‘I’m sorry Jake, it’s an omen’’, she also apologizes to her superior in an argument by saying ‘‘too far? I’m sorry ‘‘ when she realizes that she might have gone to great lengths in the argument.

7) Use Of Hypercorrect Grammar

According to Deficit theory women uses hypercorrect grammar and pronunciation but grammar and language are a matter of personal choice and also context and time. Both the series has examples of hypercorrect grammar and pronunciation not only in the language of males but also in female language. In All in the family Archie uses double negatives, ain’t instead of proper helping verbs, incorrect tenses and pronunciation of words. For example, he uses double negatives most of the times such as;

‘‘I don’t call that no hard work’’

‘‘The sight of blood doesn’t bother me non’’

‘‘I ain’t got no bars on the front door’’

‘‘don’t touch nothing’’

He also uses ain’t in most of his sentences for example, ‘‘it ain’t England’’, ‘‘they ain’t going anywhere’’, ‘‘I ain’t Jewish’’. Archie’s pronunciation is a little flawed as well. He prefers to drop the ‘g’ sound from ‘ing’ e.g., nothin’, bleedin’, weepin’, mornin’, learnin’ etc. he also uses ‘youse’ instead of you for example he says ‘‘why don’t youse all get busy’’. Archie utters grammatically incorrect sentences such as ‘‘before you were born’’, ‘‘if you weren’t living off of me ‘’. Gloria on the other hand produces proper grammatical sentences and use proper pronunciation of words. On the contrary to Gloria the female character of Brooklyn 99 uses more incorrect grammatical forms as compared to the male character of the series. For example, she says ‘‘ain’t no thang ‘’, ‘‘you done good kid’’, ‘‘ you took the situation and you flipped flopped it ‘’. Flipped flopped in this sentence is not a correct word but she has still used it. There is no sufficient example for incorrect grammatical forms used by the male character in the later series.

8) Vocabulary Related to Gender

Gender related language is one of the qualities of language highlighted by Lakoff in her theory. According to her women use words common to their vocabulary such as colors, sewing, household activities etc. while men mostly use words related to sports. the words of female vocabulary are not commonly used by men in their language. On the contrary to this view, it can be seen in All in the family that Gloria not only uses words related to household activities such as dinner, brunch, cooking etc. but she also talks about inequality among both sexes, racial prejudice, religious crisis and other important issues of that time along with her husband. However, it is true that Archie mostly talks about sports e.g., he calls bobsledding, wrestling a manly sport and he watches football games and is very impressed by his friend who was once a football player. He also is very opposed to the modernization and its effects on his generation and mostly talks about politics. He says that ‘‘sports, sportsmanship, guts, guns ‘‘ are the things that separates the sexes. Although in Brooklyn 99 both the male and female characters talk the least about things attributed common to their vocabulary. They mostly talk about their jobs personal lives etc. there are no such instances where both of them use any specific words or talk about topics considered to be rigid qualities of their language use on the basis of their gender.

9) Euphemistic Language

Euphemism is the substitution of an inoffensive expression for one considered offensively explicit. According to Lakoff women tend to use euphemistic language such examples can be seen in the collected data not only in the female language but also in male language. Gloria uses euphemisms such as ‘‘I think that it’s beautiful that Michael wants to help the underprivileged’’, underprivileged here is a euphemistic term for poor people. Another example is when she says ‘‘I knew you would cop out’’, cop out here is a euphemism for avoiding a compulsory task. Archie on the other hand use gents room instead of washroom. But there is no such example found in Brooklyn 99.

CONCLUSION

Lakoff’s theory focuses only on a few characteristics of language use of gender and generalizes it as a whole. She ignores context, experience, power relations, education as factors affecting use of language and only focuses on the differences on the basis of inferior or subordinate role of women in the society. However, in this study it can be seen that language has evolved over time. Even if the theory is applicable on the language of women in 1970’s, but still it cannot be said that it is can most certainly be applied to the language of that time as well. It Is clear from the analysis that even in the series of All in the family 1971, the male character uses 68% intensifiers and the female character uses only 32%. On the other hand, overall increase in the use of intensifiers can be seen in Brooklyn 99. The male character uses 84% intensifiers while the female only uses 16%. Similarly, a shift in the use of hedges can also be seen in this study where the male characters use 48% hedging in the forms while 80% in the later series. Likewise, the female character uses 48% and 20% hedges respectively which is lesser than the male characters. Other example such as grammatical forms and pronunciation, use of euphemisms, apologies, specific vocabulary can not only be observed in the female language but also in the male language. In the light of this study, it is possible to say that it is wrong to affiliate certain characteristics with the language use of gender because not only the language goes through many changes along with time but also because language use is mostly related to context, power relation among speakers, personal choice or brought up, education, and many other important factors. While studying language of any specific entity all these factors should be taken into account to have satisfactory results.

Furthermore, it is critical to understand that changes in gender roles, cultural norms, and the emergence of new communication platforms are just a few examples of how language has evolved in tandem with broader societal developments. Both male and female characters' vocabulary is changing to challenge conventional assumptions as varied opinions are increasingly reflected in current media depictions. Hedging and expressive language are examples of how gender standards are blurred in contemporary series like Brooklyn Nine-Nine, allowing for more nuanced depictions in which male characters use linguistic traits often associated with women. The way in which language is blended between genders demonstrates how language is a dynamic and flexible instrument that is formed by context and cultural discourse, rather than just a reflection of fixed identities. Therefore, any analysis of language use needs to take these dynamically changing relationships into account and steer clear of simplistic correlations between gender and particular linguistic features, instead recognizing the intricate interaction between identity, socialization, and communicative intent that influences how people express themselves.

REFERENCES

- Alzharani, e E.A (2019). The role of gender in language change. *University of Glasgow*.
Karlsson, S (2007). Gender related differences in language use. *Lulea University of Technology*.

Liberal Journal of Language & Literature Review

Print ISSN: 3006-5887

Online ISSN: 3006-5895

- Laws, J., Ryder, C. and Jaworska, S. (2017) A diachronic corpus-based study into the effects of age and gender on the usage patterns of verb-forming suffixation in spoken British English. *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics*. ISSN 1569-9811
- Mohd, J. Theories of Gender and power differences: a discussion. *A journal of Modern languages*.
- Coates, J. (2015). Women, Men and Language: *A Sociolinguistic Account*. Routledge.
- Bucholtz, M., & Hall, K. (2004). "Language and Identity." *In A Companion to Linguistic Anthropology*, ed. by Alessandro Duranti. Blackwell Publishing.
- Tannen, D. (1990). *You Just Don't Understand: Women and Men in Conversation*. William Morrow.
- Holmes, J. (2008).** *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. Routledge.
- Eckert, P., & McConnell-Ginet, S. (2003). "Gender and Sociolinguistic Variation." *Journal of Sociolinguistics*, 7(4), 453-478.
- Maltz, D. N., & Borker, R. (1982). "A Cultural Approach to Male-Female Miscommunication." *Language and Gender: Theories and Methods*, 2-7.