

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter I would like to give some comments and opinion on the representation of the self based on the findings in the macrostructure, microstructure, and superstructure aspects in Chapter Three.

In the macrostructure analysis, Bush has not really represented himself as a positive self since the thesis and reiteration parts only speak about how proud he is to have served as the president of the USA and how he cherishes the moments he has spent to build America. Furthermore, Bush shows respect and wishes good luck to Obama in continuing to lead the nation.

In my opinion, Bush does not want to immediately put a clear positive representation of himself in this part because he avoids making people think he is bragging about his leadership in the first place. However, I find that Bush focuses on showing his gratitude and excitement about the end of his presidency and welcoming the new president. Possibly, Bush intends to keep his representation in an average scale as a strategy to make his speech more down to earth and also to put a proper impression in terms of structure and intention.

In the argument part, Bush argues very powerfully which leads to his clearer self-presentation. In this thesis, the aspects being used in the microstructure analysis are the lexicon use, local meanings, and topic selection. Through these tools, the positive self-presentation is vividly revealed.

In Chapter Three, there are only eleven words in the lexicon use. However, those words have contributed enough understanding that Bush is very positive about himself. He uses the words *advancing, promoting, strived, compassion, optimism, confidence, resilient, hopeful, caring, strong, and unshakable*, which, if we match each of the words with the context will make more sense of the positive self-presentation of Bush.

I find that it becomes clearer to see that Bush uses such words to support and to prove his success in leading the country. Bush uses these words which reflect strong positive meaning found in himself, in the people of America, and in all the efforts he has done for the country.

When using the local meanings, there are some interesting findings. Bush can be very specific in elaborating the advance of America's security system that was built after the terror attack. On the other hand, Bush is very general in telling the setbacks that he has probably caused. He does not even explain the setbacks further. This briefly speaks about how Bush cleverly uses local meanings, in this case in being specific or general.

Bush mentions his own specific successes to leave a good impression that he, together with the citizens, has made great improvement for the country. I think this is quite common when someone tries to think and talk about his success or at

least his efforts in making a better system, let alone in running such a presidential system.

It is also seen in his speech that when it comes to things he has done for the country and also for the world, Bush always gives many details. This again surely gives an assurance that Bush intends to make American people perfectly notice his success and probably to make them see how he has fought a good fight for the country.

Furthermore, Bush is very explicit when talking about all the developments and successes he has reached. He is also very explicit to point out some countries that may have caused a big loss to America. This might mean that he wants to show who the bad side is and who the victim is.

When reading and analysing the speech, I find out that most of the topics selected to be conveyed in the speech are positive topics. There are at least five positive topics while there is only negative topic. Bush talks mostly about the improvement of security, terrorism-free country, human rights, better education and health as well as better economy.

I can tell that this is one of the best strategies Bush could ever use to represent himself positively. He puts big positive topics that are later on elaborated so that people may think about how helpful the breakthrough Bush has done is for the country.

Overall in the microstructure, it is very clear that by analysing the lexicon use, local meanings and topic selection, Bush has been proven to have represented himself positively along the way. This also shows Bush's great skill in processing the topics and words in the speech.

In the superstructure aspect, the simple schemata which is divided into thesis, arguments and reiteration has led us to see the overall meaning and one's self presentation. It may not give the details but it can give us vivid and comprehensible picture of how one is being presented.

In the thesis and reiteration parts, we can see that Bush has not bluntly spoken about his success, they are more about showing his gratitude to have served as president. He mentions his gratitude and excitement at the beginning of the speech and later he repeats the same thing at the end of the speech. This surely is to give an impression at the beginning and ending of his speech so as to support his intention that people will see that Bush represents himself positively.

When analysing the overall meaning in the arguments using the schemata, it is gradually showing to the surface that Bush is representing himself positively, although maybe he takes it one by one from the simple success to the biggest and most prestigious ones. The arguments are well used to support the thesis and reiteration. He starts talking about the first problem he faced in his presidency, which is the 9/11 tragedy. Later on it leads to preventing terrorism, mending the economy, health as well as education. Furthermore, Bush also puts some arguments on how he and the country have contributed help to some other countries around the world.

Thus, after reading, studying and analysing every part of Bush's speech using the theory of van Dijk, I have come to the conclusion that all the analyses of the three structures in the micro level analysis, which are the macrostructure, microstructure and superstructure, have clearly proven that Bush is successfully representing himself positively in the speech.

Together with this conclusion, I would like to suggest that the next researchers who are going to choose discourse analysis as their thesis topic should pay big attention to some major things such as the primary text that is going to be used thoroughly. They should pay more time and energy to go through every detail in the text they are going to pick since there has to be a synchronization between the text and the theory being used. In order to have a strong and impactful data analysis, the text should meet the theory, vice versa. Another thing to be a concern is the critical thinking skill in analysing every detail presented in the text. Researchers have to utilise every possible tool in the theory, combined with critical thinking skill to process the data in order to present comprehensible analysis to both the target readers in general and to future researchers.

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