

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

After watching several episodes of *Modern Family*, I find 19 utterances that are suitable to be used as my data in my thesis. In 17 utterances that I use as my data, there are 6 flouting of maxims, three of which are flouting the maxim of quantity, two of which are flouting the maxim of manner, and one is flouting the maxim of quality. There are also 11 violating of maxims, nine of which are violating the maxim of quality, one is violating maxim of relation, and there is one utterance which is violating the maxim of quantity and also violating the maxim of manner.

We can see here that the type of non-observance of maxims that most frequently happens in the utterances is the violating of maxims (11 of 17 utterances). I believe that this happens because some of the characters in the data often lie in their utterances to hide from others something bad that they have done. Moreover, they also try to deceive the hearers by saying something which is not true or in which they lack of evidence and also by giving an amount of answers which are not required by the hearers. Yet the type of non-observance of maxims that is not commonly happens and not really observed in the situational comedy is infringing a maxim, opting-out a maxim and suspending a maxim. This is true because the characters in the situational comedy tend to lie more and to give unnecessary information and not to infringe a maxim, opt-out or suspend a maxim.

The character which often violates the maxim is Phil. I can conclude that Phil is not an honest person, because he often lies and says something about which he lacks evidence. Moreover, he often makes the others deceived by his utterances. He tends to utter lies in order to hide the truth from his family. For example, when his wife, Claire, asks him where he is when the bike that he brings is lost, Phil lies to Claire by answering that he is at the gas station to get some gas. Actually, the audience knows that at that time when Phil loses the bike, he is at a new sexy neighbor's house. He lies to Claire because he knows Claire will get mad at him if she knows Phil drops by at the new sexy neighbor's house. And when it comes to a situation in which he wants to say the truth (data 4), people seem not too sure that he is saying the truth. Moreover, he has to accept the truth that his father-in-law makes a false testimony of what he has done to Phil. Besides violating, the types of non-observance of maxims is found among the utterances is the use of flouting of maxims. I think this might happen because the characters in the data tend to lie more than to wish the hearers to just catch what the speakers want to say.

I use three theories to analyze the humor effect in my data. They are Incongruity Theory, Superiority Theory and Raskin's Theory of Script Incongruity. Compared to Superiority Theory and Raskin's Theory of Script Incongruity, Incongruity theory is more dominant in the data. This might happen, because I believe in making the utterance funny the situational comedy tends to put the surprise in the punch line of each of the dialogues. The utterances often start with one story or set-up then continue with the audience making a prediction of what will happen next at the end of the story. Most of the utterances in the data end up not just like what the audience has expected, so finally it makes a surprise.

In reality when we are having conversation with others, we expect true information from the person that we talk to. But somehow our conversation with others is not always like that. The answer or the utterance from the people we talk to

is sometimes surprising and it can be unlike what we expected before. Based on the Theory of Incongruity, when our expectation of people's utterance fails, the result can be humor or puzzlement. If finally the story or the conversation ends up differently from what we have expected, then the result is a surprise. So when we think what has just happened is congruous with the earlier information in the story, the laughter is raised. But if the audience does not get the joke when the incongruity is resolved, they will get puzzled. For example, when the weather is hot, we expect the person that we ask for help to open a window will say yes; however, when he rejects our request and says, "It is good for me," we will get surprised by his answer. Later when we know that he is on a diet to lose his weight, we finally get the idea that he thinks the hot weather will make him/her to sweat and so will help him lose some weights.

For further research about the types of non-observance of maxims that leads to humor, I recommend other readers will dig more from this situational comedy, *Modern Family*. I believe that this situational comedy is not only funny but there are lots of implicatures and the use of non-observance of maxims that supports the humor to rise. The characters in the film and the stories that are set-up also support the film to be a real amusement for the audience. Therefore, I really recommend other students to continue analyzing this situational comedy because there are more to find in it. It will be amusing and challenging when we are able to reveal the humor through the analysis that we make. After doing the analysis, we can know considered funny and how is the process of finding the humor behind utterances.

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