

CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

After doing a textual analysis on a speech entitled “President Bush Launches Attack on Afghanistan,” I get three kinds of meanings analyzed: textual, ideational, and interpersonal. Based on those three kinds of meanings, no matter what linguistic instrument is used, the speech usually leads to Bush representing America, the American citizens, and himself as the positive self. On the other hand, the Al-Qaeda terrorists, which are also known as the Taliban, are represented negatively. By presenting such a negative representation, Bush wants to urge the American people to think about the terrorists, especially about the threat of the terrorists’ attacks so as to make the people have the same negative perception of the terrorists as he thinks. It is very obvious that Bush, who was the President of the United States at that time, was trying to indoctrinate his people regarding the issue of terrorist attack.

The linguistic instruments that are used in the textual meaning are Reference, Conjunction, Repetition, Synonymy, Antonymy, Meronymy, Hyponymy, Collocation, and Theme and Rheme. Based on the analysis that I have done in the

third chapter, I find that in terms of textual analysis, there are some points we can conclude. Firstly, there are two kinds of representation: positive representation, which is most likely attributed to the self, and negative representation which is most likely attributed to the other. In this speech, America is the self, and the terrorist is the other. Secondly, by the use of Theme and Rheme, we can see that Bush's intention throughout his speech is more to convey his flow of ideas that correlate with each other. I believe the use of textual meaning and its instruments show the clear division of the representations as well as Bush's intention that is going to be conveyed in the speech.

Ideational meaning is used to analyze the text using Transitivity. Based on Chapter Three, the analysis of Transitivity focuses only on the representation of the self and other seen from the processes of each clause. This speech of Bush's is dominated by the material processes, which cover more than half of the speech. Material process shows an action that is done by the actor. Thus, I believe the process shows that in Bush's speech, he is mainly speaking about the action that will be taken or has been taken in response to the terrorist attack issue. One of the actions is to declare the Operation Enduring Freedom, which is to do a military strike against the terrorists in Afghanistan. All the actions that are taken by America and its components are considered to be positive, since Bush always represents himself and his country as the positive self. Then again, the terrorists, which are considered in opposition with America and its allies, are represented as the negative other by Bush.

In the analysis using Interpersonal meaning, I employ the linguistic instruments such as Mood, Modality, Polarity, and Tenses. In terms of Mood, I can conclude that in the speech, Bush provides information to the hearer (the American citizens) and seeks agreement from them through the major use of declarative mood. Modality is used to analyze the probability that will be used further to show Bush's attitude and judgment towards the terrorists. Through Polarity and Tenses, it is showed that the speech mostly consists of positive polarity and it is in present tense. In my opinion, at first the interpersonal meaning is used by Bush to communicate his judgment towards the terrorists in Afghanistan who have threatened his country and his citizens by attacking the United States of America. Next, I also think that by the use of interpersonal meaning Bush wants to convey his attitude towards the American citizens who have suffered from the terrorist attack. Moreover, in using interpersonal meaning, Bush wants to show that he is considerate towards the victims, who consist mostly of the American people.

As I have written in the first chapter, Bush delivered this speech from Treaty Room of the White House at 01:00 p.m. Eastern Time, on October 7th, 2001. The speech was then made in the written form by Pierre Tristam. To support the right justification of Bush's strike, I assert a fact that the speech is delivered in reaction to the series of terrorist attacks done by the Taliban and Al-Qaeda to America, which is also called the 9/11 attack. Then Bush announced the beginning of Operation Enduring Freedom to do military strike against the Taliban and al-Qaeda terrorists in

Afghanistan. I believe Bush delivers this speech in order to get agreement from other countries which are America's allies, for he will do a military aggression to another country in the name of subjugating the terrorists, which will also result in losing innocent people's lives in Afghanistan. For that reason, Bush tried to convince the other countries that he did not do something bad, because the one that he wanted to destroy was the terrorists, not the Afghanistan or its people. It was just unfortunate that most of the terrorists resided in Afghanistan; therefore, Afghanistan would also suffer structural damage from the attack.

For further studies using textual analysis, I recommend analyzing other speeches of Bush to analyze, because I know that some of Bush's speeches are rather controversial; either the issues delivered in his speech are controversial, or the speech itself contains some controversial statements that bring the impressions that he discredits some people from a certain group. Some examples are Bush's speech on announcing war against Iraq and his first speech delivered right after the attacks on the two towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Such studies will be very interesting as by analyzing the speech of Bush announcing war against Iraq, we can see how Bush portrays another country such as Iraq from his point of view as the President of the United States at that time. As for the first speech delivered by Bush after the first attack of the terrorists, the speech conveys more or less Bush's quick reaction in responding to the attacks that have been suffered by his country.

By writing this thesis, I am assured that behind some speeches lay some underlying messages. These underlying messages are purposely hidden to create confusion or a misleading impression. However, if we analyze further, we can find the hidden messages that are deliberately put in the speech. By using this Systemic Functional Grammar as the instrument of the analysis, we can find the true intention behind one's speech and uncover the underlying messages so that they become clear.

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