CHAPTER FOUR

CONCLUSION

In this chapter I would like to give my concluding points based on my analysis in the previous chapter. I find many types of non-observance of Gricean maxims which lead to conflict in Devious Maids TV series season one. There are twenty two utterances in four scenes that I analyse in this thesis. In twenty two utterances, there are thirty four instances of non-observance of the Gricean maxims. They are: one data of flouting the maxim of quality, seven data of flouting the maxim of quantity, eight data of flouting the maxim of relation, fourteen data of flouting the maxim of manner and four data of violating the maxim.

The most dominant type of non-observance of the Gricean maxim that I find in this thesis is flouting the maxim. In my opinion, the reason why the speakers flout the maxims are because the information they give are not clear and not in the right quantity. I find all of the maids, (Zoila, Carmen and Valentina), as dominant
characters in this analysis, like to give long-winded utterances, not being straight to the point. They also often give irrelevant utterances. The same things also happen in the utterances of their boss (Allison, Phillipe, Henri and Alejandro). However, some of these rich boss sometimes like to make a lie to mislead others.

Flouting the maxim of manner is found in certain situations. The intention to criticize or satirize others is the first situation that makes someone flout the maxim of manner. The other thing is because the speaker tries to avoid being criticized by the other characters, or in other words, the speaker refuses to hear the hearer’s judgement, opinion or statement. Besides, hoping that the hearer will fulfill what the speaker needs is the situation which leads the speaker to flout the maxim of manner. An example is when Henri is not straight to the point, he wants to invite Zoila to have sex with him. Moreover, expecting the hearer to tell the truth is the last situation that makes the speaker flouts the maxim of manner. Accordingly, there are situations that lead someone to be likely to flout the maxim of manner and generate implicature.

Flouting the maxim of quantity is committed by some characters with an intention to show a disagreement to another character’s utterances. Specifically, this happens when the speaker gives more information for particular reasons, such as the need to force or urge the other party to do something. The example of forcing is in the conversation of Allison and Valentina in scene 1. However, it is different when Zoila and Phillipe’s conflict in scene 3. Flouting a maxim of quantity is used to criticize the other speaker. Thus, there are various motives which lead the speaker to flout the maxim of quantity and generate implicature.
There are seven utterances which flout the maxim of relation. Those utterances happen on three occasions. The first occasion is about refusal to give a response that the hearer asks and wants. This thing often happen because there are great expectations from the hearer to the speaker. The hearer wants the speaker do something that is really hard for the speaker to do. Therefore, that is speakers give an implicature of their disagreement by changing the topic or giving an irrelevant response. The second occasion is because the speaker wants to defend themselves from someone’s judgement, opinion or statement. Both the first and the second occasions happen because there is disagreement between the characters. The last occasion is to express the true intention, which cannot be explained directly because it is a sensitive matter. The speaker deliberately gives an irrelevant response to make the hearer know about the speaker’s true intention. Thus, there are many occasions that make the speaker flout the maxim of relation and produce implicature.

The only type of non-observance of the Gricean maxim in this thesis is flouting a maxim of quality. It is shown that most of the conflicts in Devious Maids do not happen because the character usually says something untrue with an intention to mislead another character. The flouting a maxim of quality happens because the speaker hints at something indirectly which contains a negative meaning to the hearer, such as an insult.

There are four violations of the maxims in the data that I have discussed. The first intention to make this violation happens because the speaker is afraid to admit a mistake. This is because he wants to keep her own image in front of other people. The second intention is because the speaker wishes the hearer to do what
the speaker’s wants. Thereby, there are two different situations that can lead someone to commit a violation of a maxim.

In the data, infringing a maxim is not found because there is no child or foreign language. Moreover, there is no speaker who is nervous, drunk or had a disability to speak clearly that is possible to lead to conflict. Opting out of a maxim can not be found because there is no ethical obligation which should not be stated by characters. It is also the same with suspending a maxim. There is no data involving suspending a maxim because *Devious Maids* TV series does not show any cultural beliefs which prohibit the speakers from mentioning something taboo in a certain community.

It can be concluded that the conflict in *Devious Maids* TV series season one which arise from non-observance of the Gricean maxim are mostly concerned with four main purposes: first, the intention to criticize; secondly, avoiding or defending themselves from another criticism; thirdly, refusal to respond to someone’s opinion, statement or judgement; and lastly is about hoping that the hearer would know or fulfil what the speaker’s true intention is. There are also four purposes which rarely happen. Those purposes are being afraid to admit a mistake, expressing the true intention which cannot be explained directly, forcing the hearer to do what the speaker wants and an intention to insult.

As the end of my conclusion, I hope this thesis will be helpful for everyone to be more sensitive or aware when using the maxims so as to avoid conflicts. For those who take the same topic, I advise choosing comedy-drama because it is very suitable for analyzing the conflict. I would also suggest to choose a series which
has many episodes, because that kind of series can provide us with many data that are suitable to analyse with the theory of non-observance of the Gricean maxims.

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