

**ANALYSIS ON THE USE OF SLANG ON EMINEM'S LYRICS**

**Hastuti Retno Kuspiyah**

**English Language Program of STKIP Nurul Huda Sukaraja**

**[hastutiretnokuspiyah@yahoo.com](mailto:hastutiretnokuspiyah@yahoo.com)**

**Abstract**

This study concerns with the analysis of slang in Eminem's song lyrics. This study proposes problem are What types of slang language are used in Eminem's song lyrics?, and What are the meaning of those slang language used Eminem's song lyrics?. Hopefully, this study will be useful for students of English Department, especially to help them understand slang language. Moreover, the purpose of this study is to find out the types of slang that is used by Eminem's lyrics. Therefore, this analysis used descriptive method because it is to describe the meaning of slang language in Eminem song lyrics of slang language in them. The data were taken randomly, that there are ten song lyrics. Then, in this study the procedure used in the data collection are: (1) reading and comprehending the lyrics; (2) identifying the slang words used in the lyrics; (3) Marking the slang words found in the lyrics; (4) finding and classifying the meaning of the slang words. Based on the find, the writer found that there are five types of slang. There are cockney slang, society slang, workmen's slang, and public house slang, slang in public school and university.

**Key words:** *Analysis, Slang, Eminem, Song lyrics*

**INTRODUCTION**

In application, current slang can be found in the conversations of the teenagers and young children. Young people are the most creative and most easily saturated with the establishment. It also affects the use of everyday language. They always want a refresher language and most want an intimate and friendly atmosphere in talking with each other. Moreover, Webster (1980:3) states that slang is language of particular group, trade or pursuit or an informal, non-standard vocabulary changed words and extravagant, forced or facetious figures of speech. Slang usually has a short life, because it is invented to fit a particular situation at a given moment (Lerner, 1960:5). Such words as "wetback" and "flop", since they are descriptive of events or actions for which the standard language or precise words seem inadequate, tend to remain in the colloquial language and to be admitted into dictionaries Learner (Andyule, 1938:35). Slang language is not an official language or it is informal language, although it is widely used for oral communication in many purposes, as many words quickly become ancient because of trends. Based on the writer's experience from listened music, and in the song lyric many word used slang. There is no formal classification in slang language, except perhaps that it is a subclass of the language.

The use of slang can also be found in lyrics of songs and movies. Especially, movie and song that bring out the social and cultural side of someone's identity. Meanwhile, there are some various kinds of music, one of them is "Rap". "Rap" is a kind of music that comes from black people, especially American, who have particular ways of speech. Setyowati (2001:3) states that Rap is the music of necessity of finding poetry in the colloquial, beauty in anger, and lyricism even in violence. The language that used in rap song is slang language. The rapper tends to use slang language to create the lyrics in Rap song. Therefore, it is assumed that Eminem's song lyrics use slang language or not, so the writer needs to be done in the later discuss.

In this study, the writer intended to focus on the following problems are: 1) What types of slang language are used in Eminem's song lyrics? And 2) What are the meanings of those slang language used in Eminem's song lyrics?.

## **THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK**

### **Sociolinguistics**

Sociolinguistics is the study of the effect of any and all aspects of society, including cultural norms, expectation, and context, on the way language is used. Chaika (1982:2) states that "sociolinguistics is the study of ways people use language in social interaction". While Trudgill (1983:32) defines sociolinguistics as the part of linguistics which is concerned with language as social cultural phenomena.

In addition, Wardaugh (1987:54) states that sociolinguistics investigates the relationships between language and society with the goal of a better understanding of the structure of language function. It means that in sociolinguistics people will learn about the way of social structures influences how people talk and how language varieties and pattern of use correlate with social attributes such as class, sex, and age.

### **Concept of Language Variation**

Trudgill (1983:100) stated that "Language, in other words, varies not only according to social characteristics of the speaker (such as his social class, ethnic group, age, and sex). The same speaker uses the different linguistics varieties in different situation and different purposes".

Hudson (1980:24) states that variety of language is a set of linguistics item with similar social distribution. Ferguson defined language variation as any speech pattern that is sufficiently homogeneous to be analyzed by available techniques of synchronic description

and which has a sufficiently large repertory of elements and their arrangement or process with broad enough semantic scope to function in all normal context of communication.

- **Dialect**

Dialect is one variety of language. According to Trudgill (1983:17), dialect is defined as the differences between kinds of language in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation. "Dialect refers to all the differences between varieties of language, those in pronunciation, word usage, and syntax" (Chaika, 1982:132). On the level of vocabulary or word usage, for example, American English called the underground railway as "subway" while British English use the term "underground". And "corn" which means "maize" in the U.S., Canada, and Australia, "wheat" in England, and "oats" in Scotland. Even though dialects of the same language are different, it still has common point of features.

- **Register**

Jargon is a literary term that is defined as a use of specific phrases and words by writers in a particular situation, profession or trade. These specialized terms are used to convey hidden meaning accepted and understood in that field in literary and non-literary pieces and writing

- **Style**

People speak in different ways, formally or informally, according to the situation and the circumstances. Ceremonial occasions require very formal speech, public lectures somewhat less formal, casual conversation quite informal, and conversation between friends may be extremely informal and casual. Speech varies with the situation; different situations require different styles of speech. Style refers to the selection of linguistic forms to convey social or artistic effects. Style is also a set of instructions. The message it conveys are not normally conveyed in words (Chaika, 1982:29).

- **Slang**

Slang is nonstandard use of words in a language of a particular social group. Slang terms are often particular to a certain subculture, such as: musicians, skateboarders and drug users. Another theory of slang by Mencken (1936:481) slang is expressions that do not belong to Standard English. For example: "what's up?" is an example of a term for asking about people or greeting a person.

### **Concept of Slang**

According to Hornby (1974:807), Slang is words, phrases, meanings of words, etc. commonly used in talk among friends or colleagues, but not suitable for good writing or

formal occasions. The kind was used by and typical of only one class of persons. Kis (1997: 241) states that slang is a linguistic universal because presumably, it is found in every language and in every area of the languages. One of the basic conditions of its birth perhaps the most important one is a community the members which are in a daily relationship of intensive verbal communication. If this relationship of intensive verbal communication exists, slang phenomena occurs in the language.

People speak differently in formal contexts and in formal contexts, especially when speaking informally, people often use slang: an informal but colorful words and expressions. Slang is an unconventional words or phrases that express something new or something old in a new way. Slang words sometimes flippant, impolite, and improper. Since slang is a wide concept and it is used in different and rather confusing ways, there is not fixed definition about it. Lighter (1994:11) defined slang as informal, non-standard, non-technical vocabulary composed chiefly of novel sounding synonyms for standard word and phrases.

Slang began to creep into English literature although many writers and schools were fiercely against it, saying that it was vulgar, corrupted, uncultured, secret and false, the dialect of the rabble, of beggars, of gypsies and of thieves. Today any writer may use slang freely, especially in fiction, song lyrics and drama (Wikipedia, 2015:3).

### **Types of Slang Language**

In this part, the writer only will explain some types of slang language. Some of slang types are:

#### **Cockney Slang**

Cockney slang is a form of English slang which originated in the East End of London, and has been popularized by film, music, and literature. There are two kinds of Cockney slang. First, used by educated middle class people and they are who came from origin regional. The second, used by the semi literate and quite illiterate people, recognized as Cockney London of Street, also English spoken by London people.

#### **Public House Slang**

As the part of types of slang, public house group words and phrases make up for the smallness of the recorded vocabulary by nature the subject.

#### **Workmen's Slang**

The characteristic of the users of workmen's slang don't mention the real something but they call it with another name that already use and understood among them. Not only the workmen's but also the laborers using slang. In fact the town laborers and town

operative are much fluent with their slang than the farmer laborers.

### **Tradesmen's Slang**

In tradesman's slang as in workmen's slang, some words those are now related from their origin slang and using by the workmen's too. Of the slang term employed by the various trades, some are the common property all or nearly all.

### **The Slang of Commerce**

The slang of commerce refers to slang used in trade. This slang usually used when a member of committee has to make an agreement or engagement with their client in trade.

### **Slang in Public School and University**

In these type students becomes the main source, because they are fresh, full of spirit to move forward for their future. In public school as in board schools and private, it happened about more than two centuries, there are two kinds of slang; a slang proper and gibberish.

### **Society Slang**

According to Partridge about society slang, he said: "In society and in all close corporations, groups, and sections of society, jargon tends to develop in proportion to the degree of its own exclusiveness.

### **Concept of Music**

In addition Hornby (1974: 557) defines that Music is art of making pleasing combination of sounds in rhythm, harmony, and counterpoint; the sounds and composition so made; written and printed signs representing these sounds. "Song is a short poem or number of verse set to music and intended to be song" (Hornby, 1980:822).

## **METHODOLOGY OF RESEARCH**

### **Method of Research**

The method that researcher used was the descriptive research. As stated by Gay (1987:11) descriptive research involves collecting data in order to test hypotheses or answer question relates to the current status of the object of the study. A descriptive study determines and reports the thing. It means that descriptive study, the research happen naturally, and the research has no control over the condition and the situation, and can only measure what already exist.

The object of the study consist of three data sources. The primary data source was essential sources derived from his three albums the first album is "Slim Shady LP", released in 1999 and the writer taken two songs (*Cum on Everybody*, and *Bad Meet Evil*) as the data

source, the second album taken as data sources is "The Eminem Show", released in 2002 taking of four songs (*Cleaning Out, My Closet, Sing for the Moment, Say what You Say, My Dad's Gone Crazy*) The third album is "Eminem Presents The Re-Up", released 2006 and the writer takes four songs (*Love Me, Nail in the Coffin, Run Rabbit Run, Patiently Waiting,* ).

In addition, the writer used document taken from library to collect the data. There are two sources, primary and secondary source. The primary data source was essential sources derived from lyric or the research object, Eminem's lyrics. Secondary data sources was taken from many literary books and relevant materials, to support and to complete the primary data sources.

### **Technique for Collecting Data**

Data collection is important to determine the result of the study. In this study the procedure used in the data collection are: (1) reading and comprehending the lyrics; (2) identifying the slang words used in the lyrics; (3) Marking the slang words found in the lyrics; (4) finding and classify the meaning of the slang words.

### **Technique for Analyzing Data**

After collecting the data, the writer analyzed them the step of processing the data are as follows: (1) tabulating the slang words that have been found in the lyrics; (2) giving the meaning of the slang words; (3) dividing the characteristics of the slang words; (4) and drawing conclusion.

## **ANALAYSIS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Analysis of the Types of Slang Lyrics**

There are many ways to express the feelings; one of them is through the music. In the song Lyrics by Eminem there are many slang are used and in the lyrics has characteristic of slang such as (words, phrase and sentences) that make. The following is the finding of types of slang of "Love Me" lyric. It could be seen in Table 1.

**Tabel 1.**

**Analysis of the Types of slang lyric**

No.	LYRICS OF SLANG	MEANING OF SLANG	TYPES OF SLANG
<b>love me</b>			
1	You don't see me in the <u>hood</u> .	Hood means involve in crime	Society slang
2	<u>Niggas</u> , I'm still grinding (yeah).	Nigga means negro people.	
3	I'm still <u>grinding</u> .	Grinding means study hard	Slang in public school and university
4	I'm here to eat, speak, until these <u>ho's</u> feel this.	Ho's means hoes or annoying person.	Public house slang
5	you <u>gotta</u> let go of Obie.	Gotta means have to.	
6	I <u>ain't gonna</u> let you derail me, man.	1. Ain't means am not 2. Gonna means going to.	Public house slang
7	I got Young Kobe <u>homey</u> , you gotta let go of Obie.	Homey means close friend.	
8	<u>Chase cheese</u> rhyme 'til my voice give out.	Chase cheese means express sympathy over a petty matter.	Society slang
9	So shut your <u>motherfking mouth</u> .	Motherfucking mouth means close your bad mouth.	
10	I just <u>wanna</u> love.	Wanna means want to.	Public house slang
11	I wanna hold you in the <u>morn</u> .	Morn means morning.	
12	It's like trying to smoke <u>crack</u> and go to sleep.	Crack means marijuana or cocaine	Public house slang
13	It's known any minute I could <u>snap</u> .	Snap means in a moment.	
14	I <u>bully</u> these rappers so bad lyrically.	Bully means harass or intimidate	Slang in public school and

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			university
15	It's <u>cockamamey</u> you just ain't <u>zany</u> enough to rock with Shady.	1. Cockamamey means ridiculous. 2. Zany mean funny.	Public house slang
16	My <u>buzz</u> is crazy in the hood.	Buzz means blowing.	
17	They <u>holla</u> my name.	Holla means worship.	
18	I thought R. Kelly was <u>the shit</u> .	The shit means scoundrel.	
19	Now <u>shorty</u> mama in precinct, <u>hollering</u> rape.	1. Shorty means short person. 2. Hollering means shout loudly.	Society slang
<b>Say What You Say</b>			
1	Haha! Well I'm <u>witcha homies</u>	1. Witcha means ugly 2. Homies means close friend	Public school and university
2	Okay; let's handle the small <u>shit</u>	Shit means small problem	
3	I was born to brew up <u>storms</u> and stir up shit	Storms means hard problem	
4	<u>Kick up dust</u>	Kick up dust means create a disturbance	Society slang
5	CUSS ' <u>til</u> I slur up spit	'til means until	
6	No punches pulled no <u>punches</u> that's weak shit	Punches means impact	
7	You midget, Mini-Me with a <u>bunch</u> of little Mini-Yous	Bunch means heaps	
8	<u>blackballed</u> and make sure you never rap a-f**kin-gain	blackballed means boycott	Cockney slang
9	And I'ma only <u>suck</u> a punch	Suck means very bad	Society slang
10	Amateurs drink veteran <u>piss</u>	Piss means urine	Public house

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			slang
11	You fuck my night up I'ma <u>fuck up</u> your day	Fuck up means shatte	Society slang
12	you die <u>tryin</u> to violate it	Tryin means trying	Public house slang
<b>Nail in the Coffin</b>			
1	This <u>motherf**ker</u> here, just wont shut up will you?	Motherfucker means scoundrel	Society slang
2	I dont really want to hurt no <u>feelins</u>	Feelins means feeling	Public house slang
3	But then again <u>yull</u> finally get your wish	Yull means all of you	Public house slang
4	<u>Yo</u> lets put the nail in his coffin	Yo means come on	Public house slang
5	<u>Bitches up</u> after spendin six hours at Kinkos	Bitches Up means mess up or to ruin	Cockney slang
6	you stop for <u>dummy</u> ? If you slew some crack	Dummy means stupid man	Society slang
7	Raymond, here, let me break this shit down in <u>lamens</u>	Lamens means lament or sadness	Society slang
8	When you was <u>watchin</u> me	Watchin means watching or look	Public house slang
9	The mean streets of Boston, <u>f**kin sissy</u>	F**Kin Sissy means hermaphrodite sacrifice	Cockney slang
<b>Cleaning out My Closet</b>			
1	<u>Sick</u> is the mind of the motherfuckin' kid that's behind	Sick means nauseated	society slang
2	my faggot father	Faggot means coward	
3	i'd like to welcome <u>y'all</u> to the Eminem show...	Y'all means you all	public house slang
4	Now I would never <u>diss</u> my own mama	Diss means speak	

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	just to get recognition	disrespectfully	
5	cause he <u>split</u> , I wonder if he even kissed me	Split means leave	slang in public school and university
6	<u>bitchin'</u> that someone's always <u>goin'</u> through her purse and shits <u>missin</u>	1. Bitchin means malicious 2. Goin' means going 3. Missin means missing	society slang  public house slang
7	I hope you <u>fuckin' burn</u> in hell for this shit	Fuckin' burn means suffered	society slang
1	When he talks about his f**kin' dad <u>walkin</u> out	Walkin means walking	public house slang
2	<u>Cos</u> he hates him so bad that he blocks him out	Cos means because	
3	Entertainment is danger, intertwine it with <u>gangsters</u>	Gangsters means group of criminal people	society slang
4	From standing on corners and porches just <u>rappin'</u>	Rappin' means rapping	public house slang
5	To havin' a fortune, no more <u>kissin' ass</u>	Kissin' ass means flatter	
6	But then these critics <u>crucify</u> you, journalists try to burn you	Crucify means destroy	society slang
7	Well if it can, then the next time you assault a <u>dude</u>	Dude means friend	public house slang
8	To get their hands on every <u>dime</u> you have	Dime means money	workmen's slang
9	But can it load a gun for you and <u>cock</u> it too?	Cock means shoot	society slang
10	And they want to get one, <u>cos</u> they think the <u>shit's cool</u>	Shit's cool means shiff	cockney slang

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<b>Run Rabbit Run</b>			
1	My life's like one great <u>big ball of shit</u> ,	Big ball of shit means nonsense	Slang in public school and university
2	While I sit writers block sick of all this <u>shit</u> ,	Shit means boring	Society slang
3	The pen explodes and busts, ink spills my <u>guts</u>	Guts means nerve	Slang in public school and university
4	You think all I do is stand here and feel my <u>nuts</u>	Nuts means insanity	Slang in public school and university
<b>Cum on Everybody</b>			
1	You wanna get high, here <u>bitch</u> just <u>sniff</u> this	bitch just sniff means absorb	Cockney slang
2	Cause I don't give a fuck, like my middle finger was <u>stuck</u>	Stuck means pointing	Workmen's slang
3	I go on stage in front of a <u>sellout</u> crowd	sellout means so many	
4	Guess I'm just a <u>sick sick bastard</u>	Sick sick bastard means insare man	Cockney slang
5	Then I <u>jettted</u> to the weed house	Jettted means go in rush	Society slang
<b>My Dad's Gone Crazy</b>			
1	I'd <u>yank</u> my f**kin teeth before id ever bite my tongue	Yank means putt off	Society slang
2	Parents are <u>pissed</u> , but the kids love it	Pissed means angry	
3	Rnrnrnrnrnr, n codeine n <u>goddamit</u> , you little motherf**ker	Goddamit means accursed	
4	F**kin' brain's brawn, and <u>brass balls</u>	Brass Balls means take a brave.	Cockney slang

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<b>Patiently Waiting</b>			
1	If I get <u>shot</u> today my phone will stop ringin again	Shot means loose	Society slang
2	I grew up without my <u>pops</u> , should that make me bitta?	Pops means father	Public house slang
3	I got scriptures in my brain I could spit at your <u>dame</u>	Dame means annoying girl	
4	It feels like my <u>flowz</u> been hot for so long	Flowz means trip	Society slang
<b>Bad Meet Evil</b>			
1	Sheriffs couldn't stop <u>em</u>	Em mans them	Public house slang
2	Quickest <u>damn gun</u> slingers I've ever seen	Damn Gun means weapon	Cockney slang
3	Above the Law <u>cuz</u> I don't agree wit police either	Cuz means because	Public house slang
4	From all of angles of us, flash a <u>mack</u> loud enough to cast a avalanche	Mack means mackintosh	
5	Trapped him in his room, possessed him and <u>hoist</u> his bed	Hoist means take brave	
6	Kissed the cheek of the <u>devil</u>	Devil means dangerous	
7	Got shot in the back <u>comin</u> out of that <u>ol'</u> saloon	1. Comin means coming 2. ol' means all.	

### 2. The Discussion

In this section, the writer presents the findings of the study that was already done. Findings highlight the result of types of slangs lyric that were taken during the research. Based on the findings, the writer can conclude that the findings th-ere are 77 slang words and phrases that occur in those ten song lyrics by Eminem. The writer found five types of seven slang's types. They are cockney slang, society slang, workmen's slang, and public house slang, slang in public school and university.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the analysis on findings and discussions, the writer can conclude that the findings there are 77 slang words and phrases that occur in those ten song lyrics by Eminem. The writer found five types of seven slang's types. They are cockney slang, society slang, workmen's slang, and public house slang, slang in public school and university.

The slang words is the formality of language is tied to the situation, most of the slang words are used in informal situation, so the rapper often uses informal language. Every language contains vocabulary and grammar, but sometimes there is not grammar in words structures, it cannot be considered as grammatical language.

Meanwhile, slang is in the informal words used by a particular social group and each has the positive and negative meaning, and the meaning depends on the user. However, The meaning of slang language used in Eminem song lyrics are varied. Such as, bitch means sacrifice, crack means marijuana, pissed means angry, mother fuckin means scoundrel.

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