



The Influence of Gender Differences in Speech and Communication

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Abstract: In the scientific article, the issues of the influence of gender differences in speech and communication are analyzed in detail. Several approaches to conducting research on gender differences in the language are discussed.

Keywords: gender difference, deficit, difference, discursive, dependence, behavioral standard.

Introduction

It is known that the study of the influence of gender differences in speech and communication in our daily life has become one of the widespread research topics. The influence matters of gender differences on language have become one of the main issues of sociolinguistics since the early 1970s. The series of researches conducted in this field proved that there is a distinct difference between male and female speech in terms of vocabulary, tone, syntactic structure and speaking style. In addition, from this period, the tradition of describing the language phenomenon in relation to society and the people who are its members was born in the science of linguistics.

Literature Review

One of the popular linguists, E. Sepir noted that gender and social status are determined by means of linguistic forms that deviate from the norm. A factor that observed differences in the pronunciation of a single morpheme suggests that such a difference is related to the gender of the speaker. Therefore, gender is reflected in the morphology of many species as well. It should be no mistake to say that the Danish linguist Otto Jespersen's work titled "Language: Its Nature, Development and Origin" published in 1992 triggered the beginning of a new era in gender studies. The part of this book called "The Women" is devoted to highlighting aspects of women's language difference from men's. (Jespersen O., 225-241).

Jespersen, based on the observations of the researchers who studied the languages of the people living in the Caribbean archipelago, notes that in men's speech there are expressions unique to them, although women understand these expressions, but they never pronounce them.

Well-known linguists such as Lakoff R, Tanin D, and Cameron M studied gender differences in pronunciation, intonation, vocabulary and speech style in their research from the perspective of sociolinguistic research, and analyzed the factors of origin of these differences and the reasons for changes in these factors. Lakoff and Tanin expressed their views on the study of language and gender differences based on the following four approaches: 1. "Deficit" 2. "Dominance" 3. "Difference" 4. "Discursive". In the four approaches to the study of gender difference in speech and communication, the "Deficit", "Dominance" and "Difference" approaches are known for the physiological superiority of gender, while the "Discursive" approach studies the effect of the gender difference in communication on the change of language in the cultural framework. (Lakoff, R., 1975).

Based on the "deficit" approach, Lakoff argues that men's speech is stronger, more authoritative, and more socially acceptable, while women's speech influence is not only felt in language, but also in

their actions and behavior, and it is argued that women are powerless discourse holders because they are excluded from being 'strong'. According to her, women's speech style is distinguished from men's speech by its characteristics of "expressing vagueness, insecurity and excessive respect or politeness".

When the gender difference in speech and communication is studied based on the "Dominance" approach, the characteristic of "dominance" of men in society causes the characteristic of "dominance" in speech as well. Lakoff, presented the results of research based on this approach "not as the final word, but as a tool for further research. (Lakoff, 1975). Talbot criticized this approach as "a manifestation of the patriarchal social order" and concluded that this approach can be placed alongside the "Difference" approach.

A third approach to the study of gender differences in speech and communication is the "Difference" approach, popularized by Tannen in his research. In this approach, according to Tannen, women's and men's speech differs in the following contrasting features:

1. Status ↔ Support
2. Independence ↔ Dependence
3. Advice ↔ Understanding
4. Accepting information correctly ↔ Giving in to emotions
5. Order ↔ Offer
6. Conflict ↔ Compromise (agreement)

The issues related to gender difference and their influence on the language are under discussion by Uzbek scholars too. Uzbek linguist M. Abduvakhabova carried out research dealing with issues of gender difference in the language specifically, She states that "gender" is a collection of a complex of behavioral standards of individuals (M. Abduvakhabova, 14). From this it is understood that "gender" changes in the behavior of representatives of two types of sexes, is a sum of similarities and differences as these differences are not only behavioral. Thus, for the study of gender differences, biological or physiological differences should not a primary concern, but cultural and social differences are more important.

Discussion

If we analyze the above features, we can see the influence of the place they hold in society in men's speech. That is, when women engage in communication, it is felt that they need the support of the communication conducted by the listener, and thus, in many cases the woman are helped to continue her speech. It is observed that men are bolder and more self-confident than women are during communication. Men's speech has a commanding tone, while women's have an offer or suggestion tone. During the conversation, if men tend to enter into conflict, women can see a tone of readiness to compromise and make a deal in any situation.

The result of studies based on the "Discursive" approach to language and gender research is carried out by a prominent linguist Deborah Cameron. According to her, gender stereotypes appear on the basis of changes in economic conditions. The linguist emphasizes that power structures inherent in patriarchy create gendered behaviors that are explained by this power and how much patriarchal ideology affects communication, and the "Discursive" approach emphasizes the importance of sociological factors in the study of language and gender difference.(D.Cameron)

Since words are the most active element of language in the learning process, the difference in the speech of men and women is also visible in the choice of words. In this regard, Lakoff's opinion, which emphasizes that women's vocabulary is superior to men's, attracts attention. According to the linguist, women in society spend more time on activities that men spend less time on, such as shopping and choosing gifts. When choosing a gift or buying clothes, women pay more attention to color, and color identifying words observed in women's speech are not seen in men's vocabulary are. For example, colors such as *azure*, *mauve*, *aquamarine* are incomprehensible to men in the system of

words denoting color in the English language. Or, adjectives such as *adorable*, *charming*, *lovely*, *fantastic*, and *heavenly* among the adjectives in the English language are rare in men's speech.

Researchers Ning and Day found out that men and women also differ in their choice of conversation topics. For example, men often choose the topics of politics and economics, while women prefer to talk about family and education. The reason for this is that women are busier with family and raising children than men.

Conclusion

It should be noted that there can be no difference in any language use. However, the fact that people use language to achieve a specific goal that reflects personal or social values and the limitation of language use due to social environment mainly causes gender differences. Thus, we consider that the issues related gender difference and its influence on language needs to be taken into further consideration. The factors that influence all differences needs to be under further research to find evidence to explain.

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