

LANGUAGE AND SOCIETY

FINAL INDIVIDUAL REPORT

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Team-2

Social Hierarchy

Analysis

My task in the project was to study hindi print media. I chose written interviews in that.interviews are generally in formal language.

Social hierarchies have been identified across a broad range of organisms, from simpler model systems such as insects, to nonhuman and human primates. For example, reliance on status cues to organize important social behavior is identified in ants and other insects, such as bees, who infer higher ranking in the social hierarchy based on physical body size. Many species of fish are also known to rely on social hierarchies. For example, in *Cichlasoma dimerus* males (South American cichlid fish known to have stable and linear hierarchies), a greater social position within the hierarchy has been linked to lower relative stress levels and increased reproductive success, Jasmine Cloutier(2016).

By definition, some individuals within the hierarchy those at the top will be afforded more resources and benefits than others, thus affecting morbidity and mortality. Despite that fact that there are always losers in this scenario, social hierarchies are highly pervasive across human cultures (Sidanius & Pratto, 1999) and they appear to emerge naturally in social groups (Anderson, John, Keltner, & Kring, 2001; Berger, Rosenholtz, & Zelditch, 1980; Chase, Tovey, Spangler-Martin, & Manfredonia, 2002; Gould, 2002; Magee & Galinsky, 2008).

Data from interviews:-

Analysis on interviews on the basis of social hierarchy. Collection of sentences in different categories. Categories are on the basis that they use to address someone in interviews. Like sir/ma'am,name/first name,aap/aapka,etc.

There is little hard to find variety in form of language in interviews. As generally they held in formal language. But still when accent and dialect comes in picture, we can extract some different varieties and social hierarchy. Because both (accent and dialect) are generally non-standard for anyone. That's why because of dialect, where they live, their occupation, their income, their family background, or better to say their social class , social hierarchy comes into picture.

In print media (interviews) it's hard to find all of these, but we can see or ask where they live, what they like to do, and more about how they talk.

They can be of different speech community also. The same linguistic variable is likely to have different values in different speech communities. In interview, say there is someone from UP and other from Maharashtra, then their dialect will be different. As "tum" is considered as formal(with respect) language whereas in Maharashtra it may be consider as informal language.

Observations

Language variation, the use of standard language and non-standard dialects, often reflects speakers social class. Lower class tend to speak non-standard dialects whereas upper class tend to speak standard dialects, middle class sometimes speak more standard dialects because they hope to move to a higher class.

Most of the conversation done with “tum” , “aap” , “first name” . Because as we know interviews are supposed to be in formal language. And also sometimes their regional dialect reflects and make some variety in data.

Challenges

Here it is hard to identify that because in interviews , generally people talk in formal language. But hardly we can consider their background also, because their regional dialect can be detected .

In data collection, finding written interviews in hindi is also quite difficult.

References

https://github.com/akshettrj-iiith/P2-LnS-Monsoon2020/blob/master/Print%20Media/printmedia_data.txt

https://github.com/akshettrj-iiith/P2-LnS-Monsoon2020/blob/master/Print%20Media/printmedia_new_data-1.txt

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC5494206/>

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/topics/medicine-and-dentistry/social-hierarchy>