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**Master**

**English Language and Linguistics**

**A Psycholinguistic Study on Lavender Language**

**Case Study: Gay People in Mostaganem City**

Submitted By

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate this modest work.

To my parents: Dad and Mom.

To my brothers: Houari, Noureddine, Khaled and Abdelkader.

To my sweet sisters: Samira and Meriem.

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Firstly, I would like to thank my supervisor, Mister Moulai Hacene Yacine, for his help, guidance, and for his patience with me throughout the stages of the research.

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## **Abstract**

The aim of this study is to discover the language used by gay people. In this regard, this dissertation deals with the issue of to what extent does language affects child's psychological state and if it is the case, can we reverse this process through language. To answer this problematic, series of suggested answers are presented. First, the influence of language can affect the child's psychological state since childhood. Second, we either can or cannot reverse this process through language; it depends on the gay's educational factor. As far as the methodology conducted in this research, a qualitative method is obtained. The latter, is a descriptive study on an interview made with various participants (three gay people from different social backgrounds, three psychologists and some people from general public). The aforementioned participants were under different interview sessions, where they answer set of directed questions. By using this method to analyze the collected data, it is realized that language has an impact on psychological state of the human being and also, we recognized that people have different opinions on gay identity in general.

**Keywords:** Language, Psychology, Gender, Identity, Gay, Community, Sexuality.

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## General Introduction

Gay is a modern and problematic issue for the state, religious institutions, universities, and research and educational centres. It is an issue not only for its activists but also for the other human society: religion, science and linguists. Between supporters and opponent, this issue remains in continuous debate until this moment. In this study, we will try to provide comprehensive information about it in a concise and comprehensive manner covering all aspects of this issue and we will try to use scientific and accurate references that discuss this issue.

This study also focuses on language which emerged from gay male, the language of gay was last study which studied by linguists and dialectologists. It is essential in linguistics, particularly from gay language and it will shed the light on its usage and the motivation or the factor that lead a person to be a gay and it is important to document the gay community and language in which reflect other changes in society. This research paper, aims at showing the phenomena of gay language and its effects on their personality and identity. Also this research investigates the acquisition of gay language through society. Furthermore, dialectologists and linguists need to use successful theories about gay language and their behavior in the society in order to help researchers to know the language acquisition of gay people. This study seeks to achieve to what extent does language form and build a gay personality? How the Gay does acquire this language? Is there any relationship between their language and the society or it is a psychological case? Or there are other factors?

To precede this research, it is hypothesized, that gay language may be acquired by the society which he lives in, may be the families (parents) are the first responsible, may be they live in a feminist environment. Then it hypothesized that language can influence the person's personality.

To carry out this research the main instrument has been used in order to guarantee the hypothesis, and gathered the information required from the topic, is the interview and, in which the interview is addressed to the gay people, psychologists and public opinion. The aim of this interview is to know the language used by gay people and its effects on personality. The data is analyzed in order to explore the hypothesis of the study. Moreover, the participants of this research study will be addressed to the gay people, psychologists and public opinion from Mostaganem.

Furthermore, this study is based on three chapters; the first chapter represented in the theoretical section; first chapter is divided into two parts; the first part is entitled the notion of psycholinguistics; this chapter includes: concepts and terminologies and its historical background as a field of study. Then it defines aims and goals and most known theories in psycholinguistics. The second part is entitled: language and psychology, it includes: language acquisition and it sheds the light on its theories. Also it includes aiming the language, gender and personality and also shaping identity through language.

The second chapter is divided into three parts; the first part is named: preamble to gay language. Its objective is to define gay language, its history and also sheds the light on lavender community. The second part is entitled: gay studies which focus on gender as an important field in sociolinguistics, it includes: intonation and gender, sexuality and performativity and last lavender linguistics. While the last part is defined: ideologies toward gay, it includes: social perspective, religion perspective and psychological perspective.

The third chapter is related to the practical section. In this chapter, the research aims to collect data concerning the issue of gay, and to analyze these data gathered, then understand it, this chapter includes, the research design which focuses on how the current study is conducted, it aims to describe the sample (the participants). Then, it includes the description

of the data collection tool, it describes the research method and technique is used to collect. Here, the researcher mentions which tools are appropriate for this enquiry. It includes: the interview instrument. After that, it includes the analysis data. Finally, it discusses the result the researcher come in at the end from the data has been assembled, and here the researcher will find an answer to his research question.

## **I. The Notion of Psycholinguistics:**

### **Introduction**

In very general terms, the understanding of how people communicate effectively has increased since psychology has become part of linguistics. Therefore, this chapter divided into two parts, the first one entitles: the foundation of psycholinguistics as an important field in details, and provides a theoretical framework for the concept of how people shape their conversations in relation to their brain. It deals with, the notion of psycholinguistics, some concepts and terminologies, historical background, Aims and goals, most known psychologists in the world. And the second part entitles language and psychology. It sheds the lights on: language acquisition, language, gender and identity and finally shaping identity through language.

#### **1. Concepts and Terminology**

Psycholinguistics as field of science is new if we compared to other sciences. It is the message addressed to the question of how do we produce and recognize speech. How does the brain function to process language? In terms, psycholinguistics is influenced by research in linguistics, sociolinguistics, philosophy, and anthropology.... etc. Psycholinguistics is an important field nowadays. Therefore, it is studied by researchers from different backgrounds, such as psychology, cognitive science, linguistics, and language. Psycholinguists study many different topics, but these topics are usually divided into the following questions: how do children acquire language (language acquisition)? How do people process and comprehend language (language comprehension)? How do people produce language (language production)? And how do people acquire a new language (second language acquisition)?

One of most concepts in psycholinguistics firstly is language acquisition also known as developmental psycholinguistics which is all about how people speak and the mental processes involved. (John, 2004, P3). He argued that acquisition is all about having the competence to acquire the native language and this is uncomplicated, but researchers had problem in applying this term in specific syntactic structure or lexical item. (John, 2004, P3) defines acquisition as follow: “language acquisition is the study of how the child acquires language including the language skills of reading, writing, speaking and listening and the memory in language also”.

Psycholinguistics is the relationship between human brain and any language, language has a linguistic system which goes from the process of the idea in the brain, communication which is the language to say a code and speech when a code come through mouth with speech, also language use from two specific parts; the first one is language lexicon or the vocabulary that human know or use and the grammar that is a several rules in the language (John, 2004, pp.66-277-161).

Moreover, any language has a universal grammar which has three components: phonological component that is one to province speech and sound of what human thinks; the morphological component which is the one we use when choosing the word to same and then sometimes take component which is the one we use to organize words in a sentence. With the previous components, people covey messages if the person knows the language so he has a linguistics component (John, 2004, pp.182-205).

Psycholinguistics; generally speaking, is about a school of psychoanalytic theory and treatment in which interprets the study of mental disorders as the result of non-fulfillment of developmental needs or disruption of them. Terms such as emotion, self-supplementation, psychological reflection, and the attempt to incarnate perfection, and trigeminal self are

necessary terms of knowledge to understand psycholinguistics. Although psycholinguistics distinguishes some of the motives, conflicts, and psychological nodes of Freud's psychodynamics theory, these motivations, conflicts, and psychological nodes can be understood in a different context. The study of psycholinguistics is part of the field of cognitive science. Cognitive science reflects the visions of psychology, linguistics, and fields such as artificial intelligence, neuroscience, and philosophy. Psycholinguists are also interested in the social rules involved in language use and the brain mechanisms associated with language. (Carrol, 2008, p.05).

## **2. Historical Background**

Every study or science has a history behind its development and stages due to the contributions of the greatest thinkers who have formed these sciences, and this particular psycholinguistics is no exception. All thanks are directed to Morris 1938 in enhancing psycholinguistics where he is considered as the first person who studies the relationship between signs and symbols as well as language and thought (Kess, 1992, p. 1).

While (Harley, 2001, p. 10) stated that the psychology of language 1879 where Francis Galton studied the word associations. He argued that psycholinguistics takes his first place in Germany, exactly at the beginning of tenth century where Meringer and Mayer were the first thinkers who study the slips of the tongue as modern way. Psycholinguistics as study, historically speaking, was launched during the 1950s with the advent of Noam Chomsky's generative linguistics or TG generative grammar, Chomsky proposed the innate knowledge capacity which is presented help to other scientists who are interested in studying psycholinguistics.

The term of psycholinguistics was created in 1936 by the American psychologist [Jacob Robert Kantor](#) in his book *An Objective Psychology of Grammar and*

started being used among his team at [Indiana University](#), he was the naturalist in psychology called inter-behaviorism. Also, the empirical study of how we speak and listen and also how we acquire these amazing skills has its appearance in the late eighteenth century. By the end of the nineteenth century, the psychology of language was well-known science and the field was flourished until World War II (Harley, 2001, p. 11).

The historians claim that Franz Joseph Gall was the first who develop serious brain study during the final two decades of the eighteenth century. His analysis classes there and later in Paris involved some of the best medical students. Gall proposed the theory that mental faculties such as the memory for words were localized in specific regions of the brain (brain faculties). The stronger such an innate ability, the larger the corresponding brain region. This idea was never completely gone in neurolinguistics. Also in 1865 Paul Broca's advanced brain theories made it possible to limit an important region involved in the production of speech in the left hemisphere. While Carl Wernicke's limit the second region, involving the speech understanding; the study of language in the brain had become an important thing in psycholinguistics (Levelt, n.d, para7).

### **3. Aims and Goals**

The field of psycholinguistics plays an important role in the development of the teaching and learning process. Teachers must know how language learning takes place in people's minds; besides, what factors are influencing positive or negative responses by the part of our students. Moreover, to get to know all the theory behind the acquisition of second languages helps teachers expanding their knowledge on how children, young adults and older adults learn. All of the knowledge that comes under psychology can be used to develop and improve the educational processes and to develop curricula that are suitable for different age levels. It

helps build mutual relations based on respect and affection, love, and tolerance (CalderonGomez, 2014, para.1).

Psycholinguistic as a study aims to give us knowledge of the essential processes of language in the human mind; their goals are about stocking linguistic information and help us understand each other in communication. Then the research here is important to find ways to develop the superiority of human experience in relation to language and communication. As well as, the social environment that surrounds us is essential to allow effective language and communication. Individuals need to experience their surroundings as well as possible. Some cases of social deprivation, where language contact is found to be lessened, show difficulties with language use. The psychology of language deals with the mental processes that are involved in language use: language comprehension, language production and language acquisition. The common aim of psycholinguistics is to discover the structures and processes of human's ability to speak and understand language.

Psycholinguistics is one of the most important sciences ever. Psycholinguistics is the practical and theoretical study of the behavior of individuals, in addition to their cognitive abilities and the mechanisms derived from them. Hence, we can say that psycholinguistics is the study of man and his relationship to language and communication, human can use the language in communication due to psycholinguistics (CalderonGomez, 2014, para.1).

#### **4. Most Known Psychologists**

Psychology is an important science ever with most advances events over hundred years before. The prominence was a philosophical one, with great thinkers in linguistics, sociolinguistics, philosophy.... etc.

The following list provides an overview of most famous psychologists from this study. These psychologists are not only some of the best-known thinkers in psychology; they also

played an important role in psychology as a field of study and made important contributions to our understanding of human behavior.

#### A. Burrhus Frederic Skinner

B.F Skinner was an American psychologist best-known for his influence on [behaviorism](#). Skinner referred to his own philosophy as 'radical behaviorism' and suggested that the concept of free will was simply an illusion. All human action, he instead believed, was the direct result of conditioning.

During his time at Harvard University, Skinner became interested in studying human behavior in an objective and scientific way. He developed what he referred to instrumental conditioning, which later becomes known one of the leaders of behaviorism." The device was a chamber that contained a key that an animal could press in order to receive food, water, or some other form of [reinforcement](#). Skinner's work was criticized by other thinkers but it remains influential nowadays. Skinner was an author publishing articles and books as a result he is considered as most influential psychologist in 20<sup>th</sup>-century Skinner's remarkable legacy has left both a lasting mark on psychology and various other fields ranging from philosophy to education. Cited by Biography Editors (2016, January 20) retrieved from website.

#### B. Sigmund Freud

A psychology most celebrated is also one of the most leading and thinkers in history. Freud is the founder of the school of psychoanalysis; his work and theories helped shape our views of childhood, personality, memory, sexuality and therapy. His experiences informed many of his theories, so learning more about his life and the times he lived in can lead to a deeper understanding of where his theory came from. Freud's theories were very influential, but his issues were criticized both now and during his own life. However, his ideas have

become link into the basics of our culture, with terms such as "Freudian slip", "repression", and "denial" appearing regularly in everyday language. Freud wrote many theories and ideas including his personal favorite, *The Interpretation of Dreams*, also he wrote about sex, dream, religion, women and culture the most important are Freud and women Freud and religion. Cited by Biography Editors (2017, April 28) retrieved from website.

C. *William James*

*Another psychologist is William James; the father of American psychology, he was a psychologist and philosopher who had a major influence on the development of psychology in the United States. His contribution is functionalism and pragmatism, one of the earliest schools of thought in psychology. His book The Principles of Psychology is considered one of the most classic and influential on the subject's history and his writing and helped in establishing psychology as a science. Cited by Biography Editors (2014, November 14) retrieved from website.*

D. John Broadus Watson:

*Watson is an American psychologist born in 1878 and died in 1958. Watson began his university studies at Foreman University and received a doctorate in psychology from the University of Chicago where he continued to study after receiving his doctorate. He established the psychological school of behaviorism. He began his scientific research by writing a report published in the journal Psychology in 1913 on "psychology as seen by the behaviorists" in which he announced his program in behavioral psychology. His important books include: "Behavior Introduction to Comparative Psychology" (1914), "Behavioral Psychology" (1919), "Behaviorism" (1925) and "Psychological Care of the Child and the Infant" (1928). Cited by Biography Editors (2015, July 13) retrieved from website.*

### **E. Ivan Petrovic Pavlov**

*Pavlov is a Russian physiologist, psychologist and physician; was born in 1849 and died in 1936. He studied science in his youth and graduated as a doctor. In 1884, he left his work at the University of St. Petersburg to work in Germany and returned to St. Petersburg in 1890 where he was appointed director of the Department of Physical Sciences at the Institute of Experimental Medicine at this time began his series of research on digestion physics, which won the Nobel Prize in 1904. During his research noted That dogs salivates before getting food when seeing the educator Pavlov took this observation to the laboratory and began a systematic research on the responses Adapted crystallized in the development of his famous research on the conflict and sleep and psychological secretion of gastrointestinal and abnormal cases affected the School of Behaviourism in America Research in Pavlov. The most important books of Pavlov were "The work of the digestive glands" (1902) and "Adaptations adapted" (1927) and published several scientific research during the years (1900-1930). Cited by Biography Editors (2016) retrieved from website.*

## **II. Language and Psychology**

### **1. Language Acquisition**

Language acquisition is how and when the child learns to speak and understand the language. The main goals of language acquisition investigation are to offer explanation of how a child becomes able to produce and understand language and how a child uses this language. The subject of language and its acquisition is considered as an important topic that preoccupied the researchers of medical scientists and psychologists who all confirm the importance of the factor of language and speech in the ability to communicate and growth of knowledge and social together. In ancient times, people believed that the child's acquisition of

language was by imitation; thought, this idea was criticized by Noam Chomsky in the mid-fifties. Hence, there are conflicting views about what is the nature of language: Is language innate or acquired? And how is that? How does a child acquire language? These are some of the questions that provided information to the psycholinguistics. (Fasold&Connor-Linton, 2006, p.205 ).

#### A. Behaviourism

Behaviourist theory is the main theory in psycholinguistics in which started from the twentieth century. They claim that child language acquisition is governed by general principles: reinforcement, imitation, repetition, and punishment. It was a still progressive phenomenon in comparison with explanation of child language acquisition on one hand, and on the other, with persons' classification through their social origin, otherwise, with a genealogical identification and evaluation of one's mental capacities by their birth in a social class. The most eminent representative of behaviorism, B.F.Skinner came up with the concept of operant conditioning.

Skinner viewed babies as white page which language had to be put in to. He said children learn language from their environment and consequences of their actions (a nurture view of language). Behaviourists say that a child learns language through positive reinforcement. The basic explanation for the development of speech was that parents tend to reward baby vocalizations (such as babbling) by giving the baby attention. This increases the frequency of vocalization. They suggest that the child will not progress from babbling to language unless the parent's shape the child's language behavior. Another important feature of Skinner's theory is the idea that children imitate speech sounds and words spoken by family and provided this imitation. This is how children learn new words. However, this theory assumes that without imitation will not result in learning. (Fasold&Connor-Linton, 2006,

pp.224&225). Skinner explained: “A child acquires verbal behavior when relatively unpatterned vocalizations, selectively reinforced, gradually assume forms which produce appropriate consequences in a given verbal community” (1959: 31).

#### B. Nativism (Innatism)

Fasold& Connor-Linton (2006). Nativist proved a number of views about language; they suggest that language is an innate faculty; that is to say, we are born with a set of rules about language in our minds, which they proposed a revolutionary idea which is called the Universal Grammar to refer Chomsky’s theory. It means that children born with an innate knowledge of grammar and capacity of acquiring language (universal grammar), they learn language innately and receive input from the environment in which they are live in. Nativist said that if children do not have this innate knowledge, it will be impossible to acquire language; it means that we understood grammar instinctively without thought. Therefore, children internalize information and generalize rules in order to communicate with people. This acquisition gives relevant aspect on the understanding how people learn languages; besides the fact that how to acquire second language as an innate process. Language acquisition is determined by a biologically capacity innate language faculty within human brain. As it is mentioned by nativist when they explained that children are provided with a genetically transmitted set of procedures for developing a grammar which enables then to produce and understand sentences in the language they are acquiring. Also, nativist have argued that human brain as a black box; black box contains all the information that is happened before an action. The nativist theory of language acquisition underlined that children discover for themselves rules of language system on the basis of simples of natural language they are exposed to. (Bergman et al, 2007, p.311).

The nativists confirm the hypothesis of what is known as instinct, that is, the primary existence of knowledge structures, including linguistic structures in humans. Human is born with a linguistic structure; it is a primary knowledge independent of any environment that makes him capable of language without special learning (Fasold&Connor-Linton, 2006, pp.225-226-227).

### C. Social Interactionism

The behaviorist argued that children have an innate capacity to acquire language. And the nativist supported the idea of that children acquire language by imitation, repetition and so on.

However, the interactionists challenged these theories. They argue that language development is both biological and social. Further, social interactionists based on the characteristics of the language used on child-directed speech CDS also known as "motherese or baby talk ." They explained that children are born with a powerful brain that matures slowly and affects, then to acquire new understanding that they are motivated to share with others. (Fasold&Connor-Linton, 2006, pp.228-229).

According to Halliday about language acquisition when he stated as follow: "What we acquire is not language; we acquire the function that language is meant to serve ". He said that language is to express our functions and needs; he developed his approach trying to see the role of language in society he sees the development of language as taking place in social context through interaction rather than he outcome of some biological innate process (Halliday, 1978, p124 ). Modern theorists believe that language acquired through interaction; that is to say; children biologically ready to learn language as it is cited by modern theorists when they claimed that: "language is always an active and interactive behavior that involves formulating, testing and evaluating language rules".Language acquisition is both nature and

nurture, something giving to you, children acquire language by the interaction of society and people that are around us.

## **2. Language and Gender and Personality**

### **A. Language and Gender Studies**

The language and gender is the study of the relationship between the language of men and women and the linguistics differences between the two sexes, this study has evolved since 1970s by Robin Lakoff's work when it was based on men language and its use versus women language and its use and the difference forms of speaking related with them respectively (Jones, 2016, pp.5-6).

To explain more, the language and gender as a field deals with the study of language masculine and feminine language associating to the language user's natural and supplementary gender. (Motschenbacher, 2010, pp.2-17). Language and gender is addressed to the question of whether women and men speak differently and explored the nature of feminine and masculine and their relation to language, also it has illustrated how language plays an active role of women as inferior to men and dealing with the findings of why male and females think and learn differently.

The theme of men and women or the gender studies has become very common in popular culture. According to (Gray, 1992 p.21): women love to talk, whereas men prefer action to words. Women view talking as a way of connecting emotionally, while men treat conversation as practical tool or competitive sport, also women are good at listening and avoiding conflicts; men comfort each other directly.

Gender concerns with the cultural norms and the identities that are associated for women or men such as whether something is feminine or masculine and also gender is not the synonym of sex difference, it may include the concept of femininity which refer to the

appearance of person on his personality, it means that men may wear makeup or light colors in their clothes and the opposite for women, these concepts also are related to the roles and behaviors of men and women. (Jones, 2016, p.1).

#### B. Language and identity/personality

The language is the face of our identity and the language is identity and not identity is the language because politicians realized the importance of language from the early stages of imperial expansion. Colonists used language to strike language and to dissolve the personality. The colonizer realized that control of the country and communities required language control. When the country became independent from the colonizer, it remained culturally and linguistically under control. Language is the basis of the nation and it is the one that links civilizations to each other. There is also a language that dominates the other and in identities the whole world is united under the control of the language (Study findings, 2016, pp.29-30-31).

Language dominance is the phenomenon that controls the minds of a particular people towards a dominant foreign language in their own language, believing that they must use foreign language in their daily communication, in their educational system, in the aspects of philosophy, literature, government, judicial and administrative allowing them to control even on the minds of the leaders, so that one thinks that the original language does not live up to the dominant foreign language and thus begins to refrain from their original language and the language can destroy identity. Learning a foreign language indicates a new way of life and a new culture, this language enters into the life of another language that has killed and replaced it. Even if this foreign language comes out, it remains in the language. Cited by (Francois, 2011) retrieved from website

The German philosopher Martin Heidegger, who said that: "My language is my place, is my homeland and a stable one is an intimate global boundary, its features and its terrain, and from its windows and through its eyes I look at the rest of the vast universe" Heidegger (1969).

Language is the existence and identity, which stores the elements of belonging, and the memory of the future, and it does not disappear until the disappearance of the nation, it is the source of identifying the basic features that reflect the nature, and linked to heritage and past and present, and determine the future features of the development with the development of human relations and technology (Heidegger, 1969, p.13).

### C. Shaping identity through language

The effect of language on our identity comes from the different varieties of languages in each country includes accents and dialects or the idea of prestige that come in people's mind, so how does the identity is shaping through language?

Firstly, if someone speaks so many languages, it means someone is bilingual; this can affect identity or the personality of someone else, so the language is considered as the key when around a different group of people; in other words, people will have somehow the idea of prestige and here when they change the way they speak, they change their identity because the language is one part of identity that makes a distinction between people. Also, everybody has a different way of talking and this is also sets their identity based on their language. (Study findings, 2016, p.29).

Second point is that language and gender are belonging together as a result the language is considered as an effective element on any person's personality and identity. Certainly, as Chomsky said the language is the mirror which reflects people's mind and identity, indeed, the language can be seen as symbol in which we can observe the cultural aspect of human.

Thus, saying that language and identity are unified. Thirdly, language is main part of our identity, so the fact that language shapes our identity, actually, is very effective in building our personality from the very early age in life. If we take the example of someone who is surrounded with people from other culture, the impact of language on his identity will be implicitly as a result this identity is shaped through language in directive way. (Study findings, 2016, p.31).

Actually, the fact of shaping identity by language is effective after taking into account that the personality of the human being under the influence of language has been already constructed, this means that language is one of the beliefs' human.

### **Conclusion**

It is clearly that language and psychology are parts in the field of psycholinguistics. This field is not based just on the language rules in order to investigate how language is used, but also on the proper use in the relation and effect on our brain that shape words. In other words, psycholinguistics is about how language is acquired in our brain? And how does language affect our identity and personality?

During this chapter, it is noticed that language, psychology, gender and also identity are interrelated parts in human being, therefore; this system are used to discover the relationship among them. In addition to that language is one of the most things that reflect society life and also language had been dealt by great thinkers in various fields which is defined as the mirror that reflects our image toward people.

## **Introduction**

The phenomenon of gay has greatly increased in recent time in general, and in Algeria in particular, and that is because of reasons in which leads researchers to look for it, then the gay has characteristics that define its features including the language which is a special feature which is somehow near to women language. From here, this chapter will try to investigate the gay as a social phenomenon focusing on, not much, the language and how it is acquired by that kind of people.

### **I. A Preamble to Gay Language**

Therefore, this chapter is divided into three parts: the first one is entitled: preamble to gay language, this part will give the learners definitions of gay language, historical background, and the lavender community in order to bring the readers a clear picture of the gays and provide them with information they may not know. The second part is entitled: gay studies in which introduces intonation and gender, sexuality and performativity, then, lavender linguistics. While the last part of this chapter is entitled: ideology toward gay in which revolves around different views on the phenomenon of gay and through which this research tries to identify the most important stations and among them: social perspective, religious perspective, cultural perspective and psychological. All this is to close the character of the gay people for the readers as an attempt to understand them.

#### **1. Definition**

Gay language becomes a new language or new dialect and it is the motivation that has caused linguist to research the distinct features of gay language. This research begins from the

linguistic reality that languages and words change over time. The use of some words from the gay register are gaining acceptance in gay culture.

The term gay language is refer to the lavender language or to the language used by gay men and the lexicon employed by gays such as" the lavender lexicon". Gay language is a group of informal terms commonly spoken among lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender (LGBT). It has been used in different languages, including English and Japanese since the early 1990s as a way for the gay community to express themselves and to talk briefly and quickly with other homosexuals. Gay use a manner of spoken language involving sibilant constants which is a manner of articulation of fricative and affricate consonant and sometimes other verbal features and the gay language of some gay men appears to some listeners the pronunciation of sibilants (/s/, /z/, /ʃ/, sometimes termed a "lisp", with obvious assibilation, hissing, or stridency (Cage, 2003, p. 1).

According to Cage (2003, p.23), gay language is defined as a variety of language that is used in certain socio-cultural context by gay people and this is a kind of language which has its narrow use in some situation of context involving the social system of gay culture. This language calls the anti-language which is "a special form of language generated by some kind of anti-society ." Halliday (1976, p.570). To explain; the anti- language uses words and terms with addition and alterations in sense aiming at building and keeping the identity.

Gay language as it is mentioned by Red (1999, p.41) is a type of code employed by gay people in their community in order to use their own discourse as a result making the connection and the communication among them under the term of anti-language . Gays have a way of speaking that is different from other speech and some of the characteristics of gay speech are the lexicon which is the most remarkable linguistics feature in gay language. It is

created in different ways with the semantics shift just before the original words depending on the gay community. (Boellstroff, 2004, p.255).

## **2. Historical Background**

Gay language, historically speaking has been examined to explore the relation between language and homosexuality. The term gay language is used with the way of women language as a way of speaking and kind of dialect, this term also is used as a constructed language with its grammar, syntax, morphology and phonology. Moreover, the majority of research has done in the earlier period on gay language focused mainly on specific linguistics areas such as gay dictionary lexicon (Cage, 1999, p.1).

Then the gay language was started by the oldest theory which is Queer Linguistics in which focused on the lavender lexicon in the form of a dictionary in which being started and used with its grammar, syntax, morphology and phonology as a way of speaking. In the United Kingdom the gay language originated around the industrial revolution when a cultural group came into contact with people of the cities (Cage, 1999, p.1). This language is also affected by travelers including Romany, Gypsies and circus performers with borrowing from cockney rhyming vernacular, Latin and words from Hebrew (Cage, 1999, p.1). The United state also has its original form of gay language often known as "Gayspeak" or "Queerspeak" which is developed since 1950s in New York and San Francisco (Cage, 1999, p. 2).

Cage (1999) in his dissertation chronicles the history of gay language since the apartheid years in Cape Town, South Africa. Gayle was the language of secrecy to be able to speak to others in public without facing punishment by law and discrimination in addition to have a community of using language and to have a dictionary and linguistics behaviour.

### **3. The Lavender Community**

Recently, there has been an increase in investigation about lavender community. There has been a cultural and social change that has given gays civil rights, including marriage, social activities and so on, the acceptance of lavender lifestyles is difficult compared to conservative society. The lavender community referred to gay community is defined a grouping of gay and supportive organizations in which is united by a common culture and social movements in different places around the world from Singapore in Asia to South Africa and the Republic Islamic of Iran.

According to Cage, (1999), South Africa is the first country in the Africa to legislate the gay marriage in its constitution and it remains the only country that brings the civil rights and comfort to the most sexual minorities in that country. There are 11 million people in South Africa who are between the ages of 16 and 30 years, this means that there are approximately 32.5% of the populations who are gay and lesbian in South Africa. Gay marriage is now allowed in South Africa since 2006 and this legal recognition of gay marriage is called equality in marriage as well as, in particular, by its supporters. Gay community in South Africa suggests some obstacles which gays face in the educational system among them; the need for emotional and physical safety of gay, the second need is to be accepted in society and the recognition of gays and the equality in life. Also gay people in South Africa

The existence of gay man in Singapore has been regarded as out of mind meaning that gay men were removed from public awareness to extent that one might forget that gay men do exist. Lavender community in Singapore has been a focus of social conflict about the natural desire of gays, their struggle with the government was started in the late of 1960s and the beginning of the 1970s in order to affirm their identity, support each other, and struggle for their rights including same-sex marriage. Also gay people in Singapore were formed parties

and movements such as People Like Us (PLU) to deal specifically with homosexuality in Singapore and to register their group with society ("Study findings,"n.d, p.03).

Gay community in Iran do not differentiate much from South Africa or Singapore, Iran is the first Islamic country to legislate a change of sex and this was since 1984, when it was the first religious reference issued a fatwa (law) on the operations of sex change was Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who said that the change of sex is permissible in terms of legitimacy. Cited by France 24 Arabica TV Chanel (2016) [video file]

## **II. Gay Studies**

### **1. Intonation and Gender**

Intonation and gender is new since gender becomes a sub-field in sociolinguistics, gender issues have become connected with the issue of language and therefore the study of language started from many years ago. The study on the relationship between language and gender is the study on the sex differences in language and the idea about sex differences and the social impact on speech and communication. The study of gender is essential to the study of language as a result to discover the difference between men and women. It is clear that there are a lot of differences in speech between men and women. Generally speaking, men language differentiates in many ways including pronunciation, intonation, and vocabulary and so on ("Study findings,"n.d, p.11).

The relationship between intonation and gender used to be comparatively less researched, it is noticed by grammarians and dialectologists that on gender differences and in particular in intonation, it has been noticed by scholars like Pike (1945) and Bolinger (1986) the difference between the two sexes is that women like to speak with pitch voice besides that,

women prefer to use reverse accent. As a contrary, men like to use falling intonation to show their confidence and powerful ("Study findings,"n.d, p.11).

Brend (1975) is one of the discovers in intonation and gender who percipience on the influence in men's speech is essential role to the way men and women speak, Brend, also provides observation on men and women styles of language by supplying a background on gender and intonation in gay speech used to be like. ("Study findings,"n.d, p.11).

Gender and intonation have become linked with the issue of language as a result of the women's movement rights to show how women difference from men due to the behavioral stereotypes that come with gender conditioning, which started from the late of 1960s and the early of 1970s to account for men's language and women's language. This research has gained an activity over the last few decades moving in studies speaker-sex differences in speech from different aspects and also their changes through the time ("Study findings,"n.d, p.13).

## **2. Sexuality and Performativity**

Sexuality and performativity is a set of sexual orientation, identity and desire which effects gender and any kind of language a person chooses to employ if support to masculine, feminine or other gendered language. Hence performativity as it is talked about by linguists such as Judith Butler which is influenced by speech act theory, the work of John Searle in her understanding the performativity based on Queer Theory in 1990s and builds on feminist's ideas of gender as an important part of self and treats gender as an act which continually must to be confirmed (Swann, 2010, p.234).

Preformativity as it states by Butler defines as follow: "gender proves to be performance that, constitutes the identity it is purported to be. In this sense, gender is always a

doing, though not a doing by a subject who might be said to pre-exist the deed.” Which means that performativity is something acting and not doing and doer is just fiction on the doing itself and also there is no gender identity behind the expressions of gender; that identity is performatively constituted by the expressions that are supposed to results (Salih, 2006, p.56).

### **3. Lavender Linguistics**

Lavender linguistics is considered as a sub-section of sociolinguistics since the beginning of [Queer studies](#) in universities, and it is a set of slangs and argot which has become a topic of academic research among [linguists](#). Lavender Linguistics is based on Queer Theory, notably advanced by William Leap work on the subject to describe the study of the language used by gays and queer speakers. It includes everybody language practices in the LGBTI community (Rudwick, 2010, p.128), with the term ‘lavender’ emerging as a name for this group because of its being a colour associated with LGBTI rights (Cage, 2003, p. 1). ‘Queer’, originally an offensive term when used to indicate “non-heterosexual people from a heteronormative perspective” (Motschenbacher, 2010, p. 5) is now an accepted term within the community.

Lavender linguistics, may refer to any kind of spoken or written linguistic practices, including speech patterns and pronunciation, vocabulary, and, sometimes, to [lexicons](#) such as" [Polari](#)". The term ‘lavender linguistics’ refers to gay language, or rather, the language used by gay men, and the same, the lexicon employed by gays as ‘gay lexicon’. Several conferences, such as the anthropologist Leap who created the Lavender Languages and Linguistics Conference in 1993 whose focus is on “presentations which explore lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or queer language, are the field of the study of the investigative work on the relation between language and homosexuality (Rudwick, 2010, p.129).

Leap (1995), (introduction section, para.2) in his book *Beyond the Lavender Lexicon* published in Washington D.C defines the lavender linguistics as a language used by gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and queer speakers (LGBTQ). The term is derived from the color of the lavender flower (a pale purple color) and is one of the colors long associated with sexual minority communities.

### **III. Ideologies toward Gay People**

#### **1. Social Perspective**

The Islamic Republic of Iran is considered the first Islamic country to legislate a change of sex and this was since 1984, when it was the first religious reference issued a fatwa (law) on the operations of sex change was Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran, who said that the change of sex is permissible in terms of legitimacy.

Religion scholars in the Islamic world such as Imam Abdel-Ali Maamoune believes that: A person may choose his sex if he has male and female genital organs in his body; he has the right in what tends to himself, either if he is male only and has male genital organs and may have neurological disorders, sending hormones called him to be gay then we help him and try to treat this disorder and restore his male and not to push him to be gay and review the motives that made him so.

In Egypt, there were a community which called community of sexual desire; this community contains psychological doctors and men religious from the Azhar, this community has been stopped in work for two years. Dr.Tarek Anis, a specialist in surgery of masculinity in Egypt and he was a member in that community says that it is sometimes possible for a gay to make a complete genital operation in the whole body and accept the community for this

kind of people is very difficult, and therefore have to take care of them after the treatment period and have to make sure about feeling of gay in which he has chosen for himself.

Cited by France 24 Arabica TV Chanel (2016) [video file]

## **2. Religious Perspective**

### **A. The Islamic Religion:**

The phenomenon of gays has become widespread, so Islamic religion must have a clear position in this matter. The Islamic religion must refer to the texts on which we rely, namely the Quran and the Hadith. Many of the gay people question why they were created so.

God says in his holy book (Quran): "To Allah belongs the dominion of the heavens and the earth; He creates what he wills. He gives to whom He wills female [children], and He gives to whom He wills males" . (Surratt El Shura, verse 43).

God also says (Quran): "

So direct your face toward the religion, inclining to truth. [Adhere to] the fitrah of Allah upon which He has created [all ] people. No change should there be in the creation of Allah. That is the correct religion, but most the people do not know. (Surratt El Rome verse 30).

What is meant by the word "fitrah" is instinct, is the creation that God that created man if he is male, he is male and if she is female, she is female (S. Siker, 2007, p.07)

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) says: " God cursed the likenesses of men in women and those of women in men " (Bukhari and Muslim). And this is clear; the position of religion

here is the curse, that is, the curse of God and not the people. It is not for people to curse this man who chose to resemble women or vice versa, but the curse comes from God and the judgment from God and not from people.

Imam Abdel-Ali Maamoune Imam in "Seine and Marne" area says that in Islamic jurisprudence there is a chapter called the cases of hermaphrodite or the study of the hermaphrodite that we hear and read from the scientific community is the position of postponement, which means stopping until the reality of the sex of this man is revealed. Is this creature male or female?

Religious scholars believe that it is necessary to understand the gay and respect that person who has a problem between his soul and his body and not to be excluded and cursed. Also, there is no relationship between the soul and the body. There is no male spirit and female spirit. The Islamic religion always calls for acceptance and agree with the acceptance with this disorder and ask that person to achieve what is the moral truth whether he has male or female members and has a problem in the secretion of hormones that call him to be a women should use medicine to restore his original creation and this invitation to him and not forced him. Cited by France 24 Arabica TV Chanel (2016)] video file]

## B. The Christian Religion

The Christians attempted to limit sex procreation as its natural purpose. They issued the following statement: The Holy Bible with its old and new covenant condemns, warns and the relationship between two same sexes. The following verses prove as follow:

- "Do not copulate a male as female copulation" (Leviticus 18 :22).

- "If a man is copulating with a male a women copulation; Indeed, they are both abominable, that they are being killed, and their blood is upon them " (Leviticus 20 :13).
- The Bible also warns: "Do not mislead..., neither adulterers nor idolaters, neither sinners nor oppressed nor male copulates..., Inherit the kingdom of God " (Corinth 6: 9-100).

From the point of view of the Christian religion that the marriage of gays is against the godlike plan in marriage and creation , as Christ says: "From the beginning of the creation male and female God created them, for this man leaves his father and mother and cleaves to his wife " (The Gospel of Mark 10: 6,7 ). Therefore, the Christian religion strongly condemns and opposes gays in general and, more specifically, and the most dangerous in the ranks of priesthood. The Christian religion considers this anomalous practice a bad example, a bad reputation (S. Siker, 2007, p.11).

### C. The Jewish Religion

The practice of homosexuality among males in the Jewish religion is considered a obscene and big sin must be avoided and the punishment of the offender is murder

And it has been mentioned in the old Bible, the story of the destruction of the cities of Sodom and Gomorrah because of the sins of their people, including their homely behaviour (as it is clear in Genesis, chapter 19). God destroyed it and burned it completely and made the sky rain fire because of their failure to repent of their sins. And also, there are Jewish communities that accept homosexuality and recognize gay marriages, such as Reform Judaism and the Movement for the Reconstruction of Judaism and Liberal Judaism (S. Siker, 2007, p.05)

### **3. Psychological Perspective**

Now scientists have not only stopped in extracting references and texts in the statement of judgment but also, they explored the motives and factors that call for human who has male members to become female and vice versa, a woman has female members and wants to become male. There are three motives: nerve motivation (hormones), psychological and educational.

- A. Nerve factors: or as it is called hormonal, where in the human brain there is a side where the excretion of "Epotalamus" through "Epovis" sends hormone excretions if he is a man "Androgan" to the "Testikon", which will be created and will generate male hormones "Tostisterson". So gays are affected by the hormonal environment in which the fetus grows and hormonal factors affect brain structure and the lack effect of "Tostisterson" hormone is what makes it grow to become female.
- B. Psychological factors: There are many explanations that have led researchers to find a link between gays and shocks in childhood. However, current information indicates that sexual orientation is established in childhood. There are many evidences, including the unnatural nurture, sexual harassment at a young age, or any other harmful life experience may affect a person's sexual orientation.
- C. Educational factors: Psychologists have suggested that a person's sexual orientation is related to the nature of his relationship with one of his parents such as their interaction with their parents and the structure of their social surroundings for example; when a mother or father treats his or her child and talk with him like female and also if one of his parent kiss him from mouth, this is considered a dangerous factor they have to avoid it.

Dr. Tarek Anis, a specialist in surgery of masculinity in Egypt, says that there are many people who are mixed between sexual problems with sexual desire or sexual orientation and these are completely different. He says that a person who feels that his body is a man and he feels that he is a woman, according to him; this is not problem in medicine, the problem is that sometimes gay feels tension, anxiety and depression that leaves him not working and not live, and this is the question: can a person who converts or changes his gender after making the operation of gender change can live a normal life of 100 percent, for example; at the level of psychological comfort. According to him it is possible that this person after the operation of changing the gender to feel a mental disorder, for example, regret what he did, it means that many of gays regret for what they did.

Cited by France 24 Arabica TV Chanel (2016) [video file]

## **Conclusion**

As a conclusion, gay issue has been identified as one of the most important topics that increase the interest of people in various religious, intellectual and social circles, because of the spread of this phenomenon in the world that have been addressed and is still being addressed today. During this chapter, it can be said that the gay phenomenon that our societies are witnessing is not a modern phenomenon, but it dates back to the oldest ages.

## **Introduction**

This chapter emphasizes the methodology applied in this research, in which it is adopted to find answers to the raised questions that led to this study. This chapter is devoted to the presentation and the analysis of the data gathered through the implementation of the modern research. The analysis concerns the data gathered from the gay people interview, and also psychologist interview and also public opinion about gays' identity and their use of language.

### **I. Research Design**

Firstly, this study starts describing the research design, by repeating the research questions and hypothesizes, second it introduces the samples (gays, psychologists and public opinion) of this study to whom these interviews is given. After that, we interpret the results obtained from these interviews. Then, we analyse these results and information gathered, which means that this analysis helps us to confirm or disconfirm hypothesizes about the research questions. In addition to that, we present our research findings about how the language influences the personality, and how people think about gay people.

The interview method put into practice in this research for data collection. The aim behind this method toward gay people focused on discovering if the language effects positively about their personality and identity, and why. While, the objective behind the gay interview is to investigate the language used by them and if they are familiar with this linguistic behaviours.

The recent study used a qualitative procedure in discovering the language used by gay people, what are the motives and factors that really push those members to be gays and use

their specific language. This approach aims to enhance the research findings. This methodology helps us to provide a perspective to the study as the qualitative data which provide and describe gay language aspects. Using this methodology allowed us to gain more information and to confirm or disconfirm the research hypotheses that will be stated on the following title.

### **1. Research Questions**

This research aimed to answer the following questions, to facilitate the research and gather more information these are:

- Does language really affect the child's psychological state?
- Can we reverse this process through language?

### **2. Research Hypothesizes**

1. Language may affect child's psychological state.
2. We can either reverse this process through language or cannot, it depends on the educational situation in which the child he lived in.

### **3. Research Sample**

The qualitative tools were selected to conduct data for this research from different views. The sample of the study takes three gays are selected to investigate the present study which tends to convey the idea of gay language. The latter is psychologists and also public opinion. This interview applied with gay people in order to get accurate information. Gay people interview took place in Mostaganem, Algeria, on Monday, the eighth of May 2017. The choice of interviewing three gays, three psychologists and four general public aimed to

investigate the different views and perceptions towards the impact of language on the personality.

**4. Description of the Data Collection Tool (interview)**

To complete important goals, this study based on the interview. This approach is considered as qualitative approach. From the point of view of practice, the study prepared nine questions to be served as an interview with three gays in an attempt to get information about their identity and their way of using language as well as their reaction toward the society. It has tried to observe what people and psychologists think about gay people. The essential purpose of the application of this method “interview” is to investigate the language used by gay people and to what extent language shapes their personality.

**II. Data Collection**

**1. Gay People Interview**

In order to arrive into remarkable and reasonable answers to the research questions, data analysis shows after the use of the interview these points:

Questions	Gay One	Gay Two	Gay Three
Do you consider the fact of being gay as a personal choice?	Yes, I believe I chose what I do; and the actions I do, therefore I’m free in my actions.	Yes, I considered being gay is personal choice; I have the right to choose whatever I want to do.	Yes, being gay is personal choice.
How does your family deal with the fact of being gay? What is the	My family always argues with me and for being gay. They always complain about what I wear, what I do, and the	My families are neither agrees with me nor against, they do not oppose me; they give me the total freedom.	My family is accepting this fact, they are welcoming that idea.

<p>attitude of your family?</p>	<p>friends I hang out with.</p>		
<p>Have you been persecuted by society? To what extent does the public opinion can affect your feelings?</p>	<p>Yes, people are not that open-minded, they always discriminate my gender, and follow me with bad comments. I was first shy and afraid to show my identity, but I decided to face people regardless to their comments and judgments.</p>	<p>Yes I have been persecuted by society, people did not respect my vision towards life, and I have been dealt badly from the world as well as from people who are different from me. Additionally, I am always facing obstacles when dealing with my friends.</p>	<p>I have been persecuted by people; but I never mind about their saying.</p>
<p>When did you first discover you were gay?</p>	<p>I discovered I'm a gay, when I was in the high school, there was a girl, she had a crush on me, I asked her for many dates like the majority of boys do, however, I didn't feel her, or have a sexual desire for her. Then, I felt ok with being with boys and have feelings for them. Like I see a man and like him by nature. I preferred boys over girls.</p>	<p>That fact is discovered firstly when I noticed physical appearance resembles women's body and I felt that I have women's soul in men body, this is my state, then I believe in my soul when I was a child and since my youngest age, I see myself, and I imagine that I have women soul, and I never thought that I am a guy or man and even in my character, I never thought that I am man and I'm going to marry with women.</p>	<p>I discovered I'm gay when I was 13<sup>th</sup> age, during the middle school period.</p>
<p>Do you believe in</p>	<p>I believe in god, I have tried to forget</p>	<p>Yes, I believe in God. But the</p>	<p>Yes, I believe in God, I pray and I</p>

<p>God? If yes don't you think that being gay is against the will of God</p>	<p>those feelings and change but I couldn't be convinced myself that I cannot be attracted to girls. Therefore, I become the gay I'm today regardless to what the Quran may say and the unnatural situation I have.</p>	<p>question that God is against this idea, I think that it is not related to this fact.</p>	<p>read the Quran. But the idea of God rejects this fact, I think that it is not my will.</p>
<p>What type of language do you use with gay people?</p>	<p>The language I use with gays or the people I prefer is totally different from the once' I do with people in general. When I'm comfortable, I use a lot of female gestures I use a low tone with words that girls use most. I try to play with my body and sway a little bit to attract the people I like them. This make me feel a lot better and more normal.</p>	<p>I speak with gays by saying female talk and words. I also use soft language.</p>	<p>I use feminine language and I usually use female gesture and terms like ARWAHI, EKHORJI, JIBI, and so on</p>
<p>Do you face problems when speaking with straight people?</p>	<p>Yes, sometimes when I talk to straight people I forget myself and I start using gestures and lowering my tone, they feel awkward about me and that is annoying for me. However, for the people I know it is much better because they already know my identity.</p>	<p>Sometimes I face problems and sometimes not</p>	<p>No, I do not face problems when talking with straight people</p>

Do you blame anyone for becoming feminine?	I do not blame anyone for my gay's attitude; I changed to be a gay with my own will.	No, I do not.	No, I do not blame anyone for becoming female
Is the environment (friend, neighbours, classmates, teacher) that you live in stimulates you?	As I have answered before there are people who I feel comfortable with. Those people like friends always complement me by saying nice words for me or to comment on the way I look. These comments make me more happy and confident. However, in my neighbourhood there are still some people who keep asking me to be a man and to change myself, criticizing the way I dress and the way I talk. I always try to avoid meeting these people because of the hurting words I receive from them.	I feel comfortable with my friends and some classmates but the other they still blame my gender.	There are people who advise me and other criticize and hate me, there many things to listen, so I accept what is important for me and avoid the other.

**Table 01: Gays' Answers**

**2. Description of the Interview**

The data shown has been gathered using Interview as a data collection tool, and the questions were concerned with gay people. The first participant is named Djihad, from Bisskra, the second one is named from Walid Bejaya, and the third one is named Laif

from OumBouagui. The interview with the three gays started by explaining the research and the aim behind its investigation, why and for what objectives they have been selected for. This interview contains of nine questions were chosen to suit the nature of this research and its objective, these set of questions were focused on the gay language.

### 3. General public' Opinion

This study used Interview as a data collection tool, and the questions were concerned with the affect of language on child's psychological state. The participants are four members, they are students in university of Mostaganem. This interview aimed to get different views about gay language. This interview contains of two questions; they were chosen to explore the impact of language on personality.

	Does language really affects child's psychological state?	Do you think that we can reverse this process through language?
Person one	Language affects child's psychological state because language is related with everything in human being, brain, society and so on. Language is part from our personality and language shapes the personality of human being. For example; if a person is from Mosta and he moved to live in Oran then by the time he will speak the Oranian language, so this language affected him.	In my opinion, a person can reverse this process through language because of the interaction with people.
Person two	Language has a crucial role in building one's psychological state from the very early age of his life, if we take the example of a child who is surrounded by girls, the acquisition of his	Actually, and from the perspective of my own point of view. I think that the fact of reversing the process is not effective after taking into account that the personality of the child or the human

	mother tongue will be accompanied implicitly with the girls attitudes and way of thinking, dressing. Even his speech will be loaded with feminine emotions as well.	being under the influence has been already constructed and it is hard to reverse the process through language.
Person three	Certainly, as Chomsky said the language is the mirror which reflects people's mind, indeed, the language can be seen as sign in which we can notice the psychological aspect of child. Thus, saying that language and child's behavior are interrelated	Since we have said that the language and psychology are two main interrelated parts of one linguistic feature. There claiming that when separating this child from the context of family it can give a positive result. Due to Mowgli experience when he lived with animals, he influenced by animals' language and attitude; then he moved to live with human being and also he influenced by human's language.