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# SCHIZOPHRENIC SPEECH ABNORMALITY AS REPRESENTED BY THE MAIN CHARACTER OF FRACTURED MOVIE

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## **ABSTRACT**

One major difficulty of a person with schizophrenia is the ability to communicate and express his or her thought just like the common people due to several symptoms, such as hallucinations and delusions. It may result in various type of speech abnormalities. This study aims to present a comprehensive description on the types of speech abnormality of the schizophrenic main character in *Fractured* movie. It is based on the assumption that Ray Monroe as the main character has represented the schizophrenic speech abnormalities. Employing a descriptive qualitative research design, this study took the data from Ray Monroe's utterances transcribed from the movie, then analyzed them using the framework of Liddle et al. and Covintong *et al.* to describe how the speech abnormality appears. The findings indicated that of the schizophrenic's utterances cover eight types of speech abnormality. These included weakening of the purpose, looseness, strange logic, strange sentences, concept preservation, and distractibility. The positive and negative symptoms of schizophrenia, which have an impact on thought, language, and emotion, are the two main symptoms that create the speech abnormalities. When Ray Monroe made a claim using illogical language and without supporting evidence based on reality and developed odd logic.

Keywords: psycholinguistics, schizophrenia, speech abnormality

## INTRODUCTION

In social interaction and communication, it is not easy for a schizophrenic to express himself like other people in general. This is because of the many communication barriers and speech abnormalities they experience. The early stages of brain development are impacted by schizophrenia, a chronic psychiatric illness with a diverse hereditary and neurological foundation. Hallucinations, delusions, disarray, and cognitive failure are some of its signs. (Rasool et al., 2018, p. 847). There are positive and negative symptoms for schizophrenia. Hallucinations, language, behavior, regulation, and delusional ideas are examples of positive symptoms. Language impoverishment and

poorer social and vocational functioning are associated with negative symptoms. (Mac-Kay et al., 2018, p. 239).

People with schizophrenia experience speech abnormality. In this case, it depends on the severity of the symptoms. Schizophrenia's primary symptom is linguistic dysfunction. Formal thought disorders, also referred to as FTD, are mental and language disorders that were used in early definitions of schizophrenia (de Boer et al., 2020, p. 212). As a result of the symptom, schizophrenic's language disorders show the appearance of the primary signs of psychosis, particularly in abnormal speech and auditory hallucinations. Language disruption is another one of the main cognitive side effects of schizophrenia. (Brown & Kuperberg, 2015, p. 2)

Individuals with schizophrenia display a few impedance of semantic preparing or meaning in dialect, counting trouble with the word or lexical determination and retrieval. Besides, it also includes diversion in preparing, and decrease of proactive resistance. It has been proposed that dialect disarranges in schizophrenia emerge from unusual semantic and phonological handling. The disorder is one characteristic of schizophrenia, making the patients talk strangely (Je (de Boer et al., 2020, p. 3). Language impairment is also a symptom of schizophrenia. Semantic memory irregularities and abnormalities in creating and using contexts are the two basic theories for this phenomenon (Kuperberg, 2010, p. 519).

Numerous studies have been conducted on schizophrenia to determine its long-term diagnostic stability. Although some studies focuses on people who have an elevated risk of developing schizophrenia, meta-analytic evidence suggests that prospective diagnostic strength is high in the schizophrenia spectrum. (Lopez-Castroman et al., 2019, p. 9). The general symptoms of schizophrenia can be categorized into three categories: thinking, observing, and schizophrenia. These categories include moods such as depression, anxiety, rage, and frustration as well as situations involving cognition and perception. (Jurenec, 2017, p. 67).

There have been a number of earlier research on language in schizophrenia. First, Hasanah (2020) did the research; it focuses on the main character of Middle School Movie's schizophrenia. Second, the study by de Boer et al. (2020) looked into the relationship between linguistic traits and the diagnosis of schizophrenia. Third, the study by Gofur (2015) clarified the schizophrenia that the main character of the movie *Shutter Island* dealt with. Fourth, Agustina's (2014) research clarified the language phenomenon of Mary's schizophrenia. Fifth, Astuti's study from 2014 tries to pinpoint the specific hallucinations, delusions, and formal thinking abnormalities that are mirrored in the schizophrenic dialogue of the lead character in the movie *The Uninvited*. Sixth, Anthony Ayyer, the star of the movie *The Soloist Movie*, is discussed in Puspitasari's (2014) research on the language output of schizophrenics. The final research, Nugroho (2013), focuses on the schizophrenic character's ability to understand language in the movie *A Beautiful Mind*.

The present study is comparable to earlier investigations. It is about the atypical speech of those who have schizophrenia. The information was derived from the film *Fractured* Movie, in which Ray Monroe, the main character,

suffers from schizophrenia as a result of an accident and loses both his wife, Joanne Monroe, and daughter Peri Monroe. When he interacts with the other characters in the film, it alters his perspective, actions, and language. According to the *Fractured* Movie, schizophrenics' condition is distinct from that of regular individuals. Due to his past experiences and the accident he had in the movie, Ray Monroe has a mental disorder that is worsened. The release of *Fractured* Movie on Netflix in 2019.

Three factors were taken into consideration before choosing this movie. As a result of the accident and previous contacts that led to his injury, this movie first presents the main character as psychotic. As a result, it illustrates how the most character's expression and speech with other people as well as when he met with a therapist can be used as data and a topic for this reflection. Moreover, it clearly outlines how a individual can have schizophrenia due to a few variables that have been experienced and appear the indications, such as mental trips and fancies. The final, this movie talks about schizophrenics who have trouble tolerating reality and clarifies the convictions of mental trips and fancies that are considered rectify and exact to others.

In contrast to earlier research that have been mentioned, this study's findings are unique. The researcher makes an effort to concentrate on speech while utilizing other research subjects. She examines the data to discover speech abnormalities in schizophrenics and how it might manifest in the main characters of the film *Fractured*. She also looks at speech abnormalities and how the primary character tends to produce it more than other characters. It can be analyzed using Liddle et al. (2002) and Covington et al. (2005), which discusses schizophrenics' odd speech. She applied a psycholinguistics strategy along with a qualitative descriptive methodology. She anticipates that this research will have further advantages, particularly for people with schizophrenia. Future study or development of this subject goes beyond what might be a useful insight for society. This research focuses on the psycholinguistic examination of speech abnormalities in schizophrenia patients.

## LITERATURE REVIEW

Positivity and negativity are the two main symptoms of schizophrenia. It can be determined through expert diagnoses. Meanwhile, Chan (2017) asserts that the primary symptoms of schizophrenia, such as both positive and negative symptoms, interfere with development when it affects young adults.

The positive side effects incorporate disorder of discernment (visualizations), dialect, behavioral organization (extremely disorganized or catatonic), and thinking (preposterous thoughts). Positive indications incorporate two measurements which will be related to basic neural instruments and diverse clinical relationships: the psychotic dimension, which comprehends delusions and hallucinations, and the disorganization dimension which compromises behavior and language (Mac-Kay et al., 2018, p. 239).

Disorders of perception, inferential reasoning, communication and language, behavior organization, affectivity, speech, hedonic capacity, will,

motivation, attention, and a decline or loss of emotions are the hallmarks of the negative symptoms. Additionally, they include limitations on the intensity of emotional expression (affective flattening), the productivity and fluency of cognition and language (alogia), and the beginning of conduct that is goal-directed (apathy) (Mac-Kay et al., 2018, p. 239).

According to Chan (2017), the DSM-5 criteria only require two or more symptoms to make a diagnosis, such as hallucinations and delusions that impair functioning. Hallucinations are a common symptom of several illnesses, including psychotic depression, manic-depressive disorder, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Numerous physical and mental health issues, such as neurological illnesses, hearing loss, deafness, and tinnitus, have been linked to auditory hallucinations. (Beck & Rector, 2005, p. 590). Meanwhile, delusions are characterized by a variety of distinctive cognitive patterns and issues, such as categorical thinking, emotion-based and somatic reasoning, externalizing, internalizing, and intellectualizing biases, as well as insufficient cognitive processing (Beck & Rector, 2005, p. 583).

People with schizophrenia suffer from a speech abnormality that makes them difficult to communicate. According to Liddle et al. (2002), there are several types of speech abnormality. The first category, which refers to poor thought or language, indicates poor communication and thought. Almost orthogonal rather than bipolar, they can coexist but are essentially separate phenomena. The second type is poverty of speech that refers to a decrease in the amount of speech. Responses to the picture and replies to questions are brief and lack elaboration. Another characteristic is weakening of goal which reflects a lack of drive in thinking and is manifest in a lack of normal elaboration of ideas, use of uninformative generalizations, and empty speech that conveys little information. The fourth type is related to disorganized thought or language. The next feature is looseness or the connection between ideas is tenuous or absent, or extraneous ideas intrude into the train of thought. Peculiar word is unusual or invented words that are used. As the sixt type, peculiar sentence is unusual in the form of sentences. Greater weight is given to the peculiarity of sentence construction, which makes it difficult to discern the meaning. Besides, peculiar logic conclusions are reached based on inadequate evidence or faulty logic. The ninth topic discusses non-specific dysregulation, a condition that is not unique to psychotic diseases but is nonetheless comparatively common in such conditions. Perseverance of ideas, or the unjustified repeating of concepts or motifs, is the final category. The cases where the repetition takes place independently of the picture's trigger are given more weight. Additionally, they may have distractibility, which is the influx of irrelevant thoughts brought on by an outside stimuli.

## **METHOD**

In order to gain a thorough grasp of the speech abnormalities of a schizophrenia, this study used a qualitative descriptive methodology. The researcher is looking for the main character's schizophrenia speech disorder and how it might be represented in the film *Fractured*. An technique based on psycholinguistics was used to identify the data. The idea on the abnormality

of speech in schizophrenia put forth by Liddle et al. (2002) and Covington et al. (2005) was used by the researchers to analyze the data.

The data is within the form of dialogues or expressions from the main character of the movie. The steps in collecting the data begin when the researcher downloaded and watched/listened to the movie. Then, they decided the criteria of the discoursed as required. Third, they made the translation of the dialogs as needed. Fourth, they collected all the data. They finalized the data into data display for further analysis. After collecting all the data, there are a few steps in the analysis. To begin with, the researchers categorized and classified the translation of discourse as the essential information required. Then, they composed the result of the data to answer the research questions on the variations of the speech abnormalities. The final stage is drawing a conclusion.

#### FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The data display fifty utterances that correspond to the aberrant speech. The sign of [...], which denotes the sequence number of scenes in the film, was used by the researchers to exhibit the data in the research findings based on chronological scenes. According to the paradigm developed by Liddle et al. (2002), they were divided into categories for poverty of speech, weakening of goal, looseness, peculiar words, pevuliar sentences, peculiar logic, perseverance of ideas, and distractibility. It made use of the Covintong et al. framework for the appearance of the speech abnormality (2005).

# Types of Speech Abnormality of The Schizophrenic Character

Ray engaged in certain speech abnormalities based on the research findings. Ray, the protagonist, developed schizophrenia as a result of his traumatic experiences, brain damage, and emotional outbursts. He therefore displayed schizophrenia-related symptoms. According to the data analysis, Ray showed positive symptoms including hallucinations and delusions as well as the disorganization dimension, which negatively affects language and behavior. Additionally, he displayed undesirable traits like reduced perception, inferential reasoning, emotional expression, fluency, and productivity of thought and language.

## **Peculiar Logic**

One of the speech abnormalities Ray Monroe mostly exhibited as the lead character in the film *Fractured* was peculiar logic. Schizophrenics had states of illogical mind and ideas, according to the unusual logic. He spoke or made a number of statements that lacked sound reasoning, were supported by scant evidence, or were illogical. According to Liddle et al. (2002), peculiar logic is a phenomenon that reflects the disordered thinking and language that characterizes psychotic diseases, including schizophrenia:

Ray to receptionist: "I signed in. I signed in on the clipboard, right? It's right... It's right here." [4.3]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "Well, we came in earlier, and my daughter saw Dr. Bethram, he... She had a potentially Fractured arm." [5.1]

Ray to officer: "No. We came here to get help, and now they're saying that she didn't... That she never came here. All right? They've done something. They've done something, and they're trying to cover it up." [6.1]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "You're full of shit. You should call that Dr. Bethram, all right? He sent Peri to get the CAT scan, and that was the last time I saw him. Call... Dr. Bethram." [6.5]

Ray to Dr. Teresa: "Nothing. Just, Peri lost a compact, you know? This tiny toy mirror, and she was upset, so... me and Jo, we looked for it. She looked in the bathroom, I looked in the car, and then... and I lost sight of her for a second. And I look up, and there's this dog growlin' at her, and she spooked and fell. It was nothing." [8.2]

#### Perseveration of Ideas

In the film *Fractured*, Ray Monroe played the main character with schizophrenia and contributed to the persistence of ideas. Speech abnormalities with certain types of concept persistence are very widespread in psychotic illnesses rather than being unique to conditions like schizophrenia. When a schizophrenic repeats phrases or thoughts that are pointless and superfluous, this is called perseveration of ideas. As seen below, the repetition took the form of words that were said to increase the weight regardless of the stimulus the patient gave (Liddle et al., 2002):

Ray to receptionist: "Why would they do that? Why would do that? We came together." [4.7]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "Well, that's insane 'cause, you know, we were here. We were right here... right there. All right... So was she. So was she. She... She knows me. She helped us. Ask her! Ask her!" [5.4]

Ray to himself: "Don't touch her! Get back! Away from the table. Put that down! Put it down! Back against the wall! Peri... Peri? Stay there. Oh... Take off your mask. Take it off. You're a monster. You're all monsters." [9.1]

# **Poverty of Speech**

In his role as the film's psychotic lead, Ray Monroe also displayed poor speech. When a schizophrenia generated a reduction in the amount of speech or utterances, speech abnormalities with certain types of poverty of speech appeared. Poor communication also prevented others from getting more specific information. It responded to inquiries with a diminished response rate and insufficiently thorough responses that made the information supplied incomplete (Liddle et al., 2002), for example:

Ray to Joanne: ... (No Respond) [1.1] Ray to receptionist: "Yeah." [4.2]

# **Weakening of Goal**

The speech made by Ray Monroe, who plays the psychotic lead character in the film *Fractured*, also caused a weakening of his intentions. A schizophrenic who experienced weakening of objective lacked motivation in their thinking, which showed up as a lack of typical development of thoughts

or words. Additionally, it speaks in generalizations, gives others imprecise answers or responses, and utilizes empty speech that offers little information. A decrease in the level of speech poverty may occur together with a weakening of the objective. Additionally, the information gap correlated with the word count (Liddle et al., 2002). These examples show what it looks like:

Ray to Drew: "Just... uh, my family's back here. The receptionist, she wouldn't...", [5.1]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "Well, we came in earlier, and my daughter saw Dr. Bethram, he... She had a potentially Fractured arm." [5.2]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "Well, that's insane 'cause, you know, we were here. We were right here... right there. All right... So was she. So was she. She... She knows me. She helped us. Ask her! Ask her!" [5.4]

#### Looseness

In his role as the film's schizophrenic lead, Ray Monroe also contributed looseness. When a person with schizophrenia speaks, there is looseness because of their hazy or nonexistent ideas. According to Liddle et al. (2002), looseness can happen when schizophrenics do not understand inquiries, produce irrelevant answers, and perplex other people.

Ray to the officer: "No. We came here to get help, and now they're saying that she didn't... That she never came here. All right? They've done something. They've done something, and they're trying to cover it up." [6.1]

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "I'm not afraid of you." [9.3]

## **Peculiar Sentences**

In the film *Fractured*, Ray Monroe's psychotic lead character likewise spoke in odd ways. Schizophrenics spoke or produced peculiar sentences due to a condition known as peculiar sentences. The quirks of sentence form were given more weight in unusual sentences, which makes it challenging to determine the meaning. Because strange sentences were one of the traits of schizophrenics (Liddle et al., 2002), sentences with grammatical errors brought on by inadequate education cannot be classified as peculiar sentences. For example, consider the following sentence:

Ray to Dr. Bethram: "It's nothin'. I'm a tough guy [3.1]

## **Distractibility**

In his role as the schizophrenic lead character in the film *Fractured*, Ray Monroe also contributed distractibility. When a schizophrenic has an intrusion of unrelated thoughts brought on by an outside stimuli, this is known as distractibility. Distractibility can also happen when you speak out in response to a question or when you are distracted by unrelated thoughts. The schizophrenic abruptly changed the conversation's subject to something nearby shown in (Liddle et al., 2002).

Ray to Dr. Lucado: "M... M-O-N-R-O-E. What a day, huh?" [5.3].

## **Peculiar Word**

The phenomena of peculiar words was a reflection of the disarray of language and thinking that characterized psychotic diseases, particularly

schizophrenia. When a schizophrenic individual employs uncommon or discovered to be employed while speaking or making utterances, this can also result in peculiar terms. When speaking with others, a schizophrenic may use words that are odd and difficult for listeners to understand. They were perplexed by it, so they had to inquire as to its significance (Liddle et al., 2002). Ray Monroe's statements inspired by the film *Fractured* did not result in the uttering of a peculiar phrase. It is possible because Ray was portrayed in the movie scenario as someone who was prone to speak in long words to support his arguments. He displayed signs of schizophrenia throughout the entire film, including hallucinations and delusions, which forced him to make more assertions to support what he believed to be true in line with his train of thinking. The types of speech abnormality are summarized in Figure 1.

# The Symptoms of the Schizophrenic's Speech Abnormalities

The finding shows Roy Monroe represented the characterization of patients with schizophrenia that often display unusual language impairments or speech abnormalities (Covintong, et al, 2005). The underlying reason is in line with Mac-Kay et al. (2018) that schizophrenia is a chronic mental disorder that has a multifactor etiology shown by the expression.

# **Positive Symptoms**

Positive side of the symptom covers the impairment of recognition (visualizations), dialect, behavioral organization (seriously disorganized or catatonic), and thinking (preposterous thoughts). Positive indications incorporate two measurements which will be related to basic neural instruments and distinctive clinical relationships: the insane measurement, which comprehends fancies and mental trips, and the disorganization measurement, which compromises behavior and language.

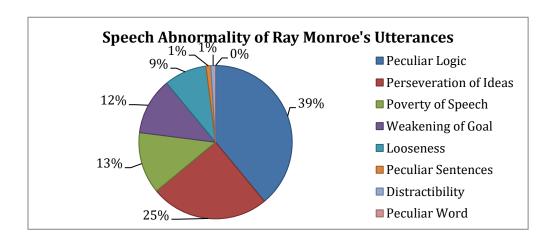


Figure 1. Speech Abnormality of Ray Monroe

The first dimension of positive symptoms is hallucinations presented in the context when Ray experienced hallucinations and delusions. He met the receptionist to register his daughter but was caught having a difficult conversation with the receptionist (datum 4.2). In addition, the context of conversation also shows the occurrence of delusions. When Ray was looking for his family by visiting the receptionist and asking about his family registration data, it was actually not similar to the reality (datum 4.3). It also can be seen in the scene where Ray experienced hallucinations and delusions and continued to force his way into the hospital until he met Dr. Lucado (datum 5.3).

# **Negative Symptoms**

Negative side of the symptom are characterized by impairment of discernment, inferential considering, dialect and communication, behavior organization, affectivity, discourse, hedonic capacity, will, inspiration, consideration, and a diminish or misfortune of feelings. They moreover incorporate confinements on the escalated of enthusiastic expression (full of feeling straightening), on the familiarity and efficiency of thought and dialect (alogia), and on the start of goal-directed behavior (lack of concern).

It can be seen in the scene where Ray forced his way into the hospital to find his family, who never came together at the hospital. He entered the hospital room, but he was blocked by security until he met Dr. Lucado (datum 5.1). Then, Ray tried to explain, "Just... uh, my family's back here. The receptionist, she wouldn't..." [5.2]. Next, Ray gave the response, "Well, that's insane 'cause, you know, we were here. We were right here... right there. All right... So was she. So was she. She... She knows me. She helped us. Ask her! Ask her!" [5.4].

# Hallucinations and Delusions Related in Real Life

Hallucinations and delusions affect people with schizophrenia in a variety of ways, particularly in terms of how they feel, think, act, and communicate. The disorder affects the sufferer's life and can cause unpleasant behaviors including isolating oneself from others, acting incorrectly, or even doing things that are harmful to oneself or others if the disorder is really severe. Regarding schizophrenia in real life, as a regular human being, there are a few strategies to help or get around the problem of visions and daydreams for people with schizophrenia, including having a deeply held sense of self, having one's morals upheld, and receiving mental care.

People with schizophrenia might benefit from spiritual instruction. For those with schizophrenia who experience delusions and hallucinations, spiritual education is extremely important and has a significant impact on their life. Schizophrenia patients require a high level of spiritual education. By incorporating the uplifting principles of religion, it is anticipated that it may help the suffering find peace of mind and heart. can alter one's perspective and bring about sentiments and peace of mind that will be beneficial to the sufferer. It is believed that this will encourage persons with schizophrenia to think positively and fight for recovery.

Individuals with schizophrenia request moral support since they are diverse from ordinary individuals, particularly in terms of states of mind, activities, feelings, and dialect or discourse when communicating. It has an affect on itself. The part of the environment and the individuals around is required, particularly in ethical and passionate back for sufferers. Particularly within the values contained in Islam, that we as people must offer assistance each other, remind and welcome to things that are great and positive. In Islam it is additionally instructed to always do great as exemplified in religion to assist individual human creatures such as family, companions, or everybody, particularly the frail or schizophrenic who involvement mental trips and daydreams who require bolster and offer assistance to overcome their difficulties.

Mental support is required by individuals with schizophrenia since their mental hallucinations and delusions influence numerous perspectives of their lives, one of which is mental and passionate. Individuals with schizophrenia ought to go to a clinician or therapist as an master to induce way better treatment such as treatment or get medicine to remedy schizophrenia indications such as visualizations and fancies. The part of the family is required since somebody with a mental clutter needs a parcel of bolster to open up and look for treatment from a clinician or therapist. This is also related to religious values which we must strive for and pray for in all things, including treating mental sicknesses such as schizophrenia.

The main character has explained how a speech problem led to schizophrenia behavior based on the occurrences in the movie. According to Mac-Kay et al., the positive and negative core symptoms of schizophrenia lead to the manifestation of the speech abnormality (2018). In *Fractured* film, the researcher found that speech abnormality is brought on by hallucinations and delusions as positive symptoms from Ray's utterance, and disorders of perception, inferential thinking, language, and communication, including restrictions on the intensity of emotional expression (affective flattening), the fluency and productivity of thought and language (alogia), and on the initiation of goal-directed behavior (apathy), as negative symptoms.

# **CONCLUSIONS**

In this study, Ray, the main character who suffers from schizophrenia in the film Fractured, developed the speech anomaly that set him apart from the rest. Since schizophrenics have problems with their thinking, speaking, and behavior processes, seven different forms of speech abnormalities were discovered to interfere with communication. These abnormalities constitute the usual state of schizophrenics. It took place because the schizophrenia struggled to discriminate between real and unreal due to both positive and negative symptoms including hallucinations and delusions. It also had an impact on the schizophrenic's speech, which was irrational and lacking in solid proof.

According to the research, the schizophrenia patients in the Fractured movies require support, including assistance in reducing their tendency to experience hallucinations and delusions that make it difficult for them to communicate. This involves advanced spiritual education, which helps soothe the sufferer's mind and emotions by illuminating the religion's noble principles. As a result, this movie can show people with schizophrenia who also require the same assistance in the actual world. Additionally, the family's support is essential for people with schizophrenia to open up and seek therapy from a psychologist or psychiatrist.

This study suggested various consequences, such as using the schizophrenic's dialect or discourse as a guide to understand what the schizophrenic was trying to say. Future research should focus on characteristics of schizophrenia, such as the types and factors that contribute to speech disorders, according to the researchers' recommendations. Other hypotheses that study the different categories of speech disorders and the signs that induce them in more depth can be used by future researchers. Other than that, the further experimental results are still needed to fully understand the dialect problems in schizophrenia as they relate to various other items and language contexts.

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