

## The Use of Swear Words Among Class Students (a Case Study in English Literature Study Program of Batch 2020)

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### ABSTRACT

This study aims to identify the factors that lead students to use swear words and to find out how students feel when they do so. The research was conducted on B-class students of the English Literature study program at UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung during the 2020 academic year. This research employed a qualitative research method with a case study design, describing the data narratively. Six respondents were interviewed using ten items to identify the factors and feelings associated with the use of swear words. The study found that the use of swear words is dominantly triggered by negative emotions like anger and discomfort, which are worsened by entertainment media and surrounding culture. Surprisingly, two participants discovered that their game teammates strongly supported using swear words. Further, people's reactions and moods after swearing vary from harmony to silence, depending on the situation at hand. These findings emphasize the long-term impact of swearing on social perceptions and interpersonal relationships, highlighting a comprehensive approach to understanding and managing sensitive communication behaviors.

**Keywords:** swearwords, psycholinguistics, feels

### ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui faktor-faktor yang mendorong mahasiswa menggunakan kata-kata umpatan dan mengetahui bagaimana perasaan mahasiswa ketika melakukan hal tersebut. Penelitian ini dilakukan pada mahasiswa kelas B program studi Sastra Inggris UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung, angkatan 2020. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif dengan desain studi kasus dimana data dideskripsikan secara naratif. Enam responden diwawancarai menggunakan sepuluh item untuk mengidentifikasi faktor dan perasaan terkait penggunaan kata-kata umpatan. Hasil penelitian menemukan bahwa penggunaan kata-kata umpatan sebagian besar dipicu oleh emosi negatif seperti kemarahan dan ketidaknyamanan, yang diperburuk oleh media hiburan dan budaya sekitar. Menariknya, dua dari partisipan menyadari bahwa penggunaan kata-kata umpatan banyak didukung oleh rekan satu tim game. Selain itu, reaksi dan perasaan orang-orang setelah mengumpat bervariasi, mulai dari harmonis hingga diam, bergantung pada situasi yang dihadapi. Temuan ini menekankan dampak jangka panjang dari umpatan terhadap persepsi sosial dan hubungan interpersonal, serta menyoroti pendekatan komprehensif untuk memahami dan mengelola perilaku komunikasi yang sensitif.

**Kata kunci:** kata-kata umpatan, psikolinguistik, perasaan

## INTRODUCTION

Language is an important tool for communicating both social and personal identities. Its purpose is to express and keep up with social environments and values relating to gender, ethnicity, and social class. Language through communication can symbolize the complex relationship between language, culture, and society. By specifying context and expressing symbolic reality, language facilitates communication between the writer and the reader.

Additionally, language expresses ideational and portrayal functions to interpret and represent experiences; interpersonal communication to communicate social reality; and textual functions to communicate semiotic reality (Matthiessen, 1992/1995:6; Martin, 1992). Mu'in (2019) proposes five language-based communication strategies, including 1) knowing what to say and who to communicate with, 2) using language appropriate for the socio-cultural context, 3) taking turns and interrupting others, 4) recognizing when to remain silent, and 5) identifying our voice and attitude. These strategies aim to promote diplomatic, respectful manners, culturally appropriate language, and effective communication in a variety of settings.

The psychological aspects that affect language learning, usage, comprehension, and production have been reaffirmed by Tatlıoğlu & Senchylo-Tatlıoğlu (2020). With an emphasis on the processes that produce meaningful sentences and comprehend utterances, words, and texts, it seeks to understand the cognitive mechanisms supporting language learning and usage.

Furthermore, understanding the relationships between language, language consciousness, thinking, speaking, perception, memory, and the psychological aspects of spoken and

thought cognitive processes in humans is the primary objective of the study of psycholinguistics. It also talks about how speech communication is based on the biological reality of speech (Nurullina, et al., 2018; Wu et al., 2022; Zutell, 2017).

As human cognitive processes, contrasting points of view are commonly expressed in conversations, which might leave one feeling dislike, disappointment, or madness. They frequently used swear words to express their feelings in response to this. This offensive language is frequently used by younger generations to convey feelings of frustration, fear, nervousness, surprise, annoyance, gladness, and disbelief.

Some researchers argue that all modern languages evolved from primitive spoken words like swearing (Montagu, 1967). Three main categories comprise the majority of commonly used swear words in modern times: words related to religion (such as damn, hell); words related to sex and sexual body parts (such as fuck, cunt, and prick); and words related to bodily excretions (such as piss, arse, and shit) (Stapleton, et al., 2022).

Swearing is defined as the use of emotionally charged, often taboo terms in a language or culture that can be offensive, inappropriate, objectionable, or unacceptable in any social context (Stapleton, et al., 2022). Abdelaal and Al Sarhani (2021) argue that swear words and taboo expressions are typically prohibited in various cultures because of social and cultural issues. It is a common and fundamental aspect of all languages, whether they are used frequently or perhaps occasionally (Hawel, 2019).

According to Montagu (1942), using swearwords is one of the children's natural emotions; there are two possible rationales: the release and interindividual needs. However,

swearing is recognized as a form of language behavior from a sociolinguistic perspective (Babushko & Solovei, 2019). A study of the biological, psychological, and environmental aspects of swearing was done by Vingerhoets et al. (2000). They investigated the "appraisal reflecting" cognitive emotion model, which assesses factual settings and relies on an individual's perception of personal value in light of multiple variables such as positivity, negativity, threat, challenge, loss, and responsibility. These variables are influenced by biological, psychological, and contextual elements, which can result in emotional reactions based on emotion levels, disappointment, anger, frustration, or sadness.

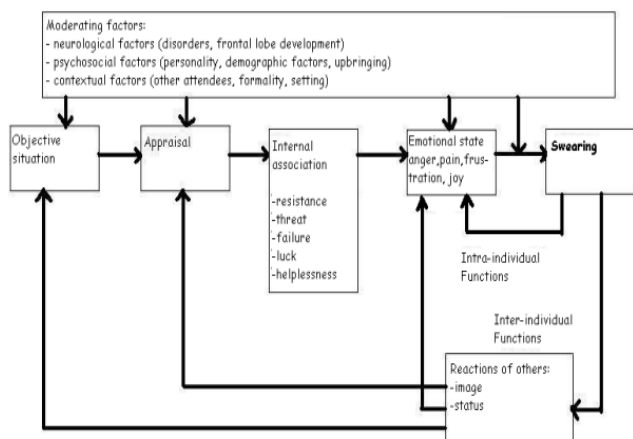


Figure 1. A Model of Swearing

The individual's overall experience of social relationships can be improved by swearing, especially when used with anger since it can improve their psychological state and build stronger social relations (Feldman, 2017). Moreover, social interactions may result in intervention from others, which may change the individual's neutral perception of the situation. Furthermore, cursing can be uncomfortable for other people. For instance, an angry reaction from someone else may scare rather than frustrate, leading to an unsafe situation. When swearing terrifies other people, anything that produces extreme reactions may also disappear. All of these

variables may help the swearer's psychological state return to normal.

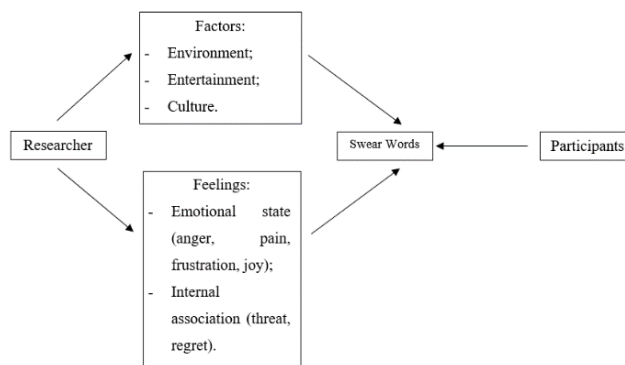


Figure 2. Mind Map of Swearing

This study is intended to investigate the cultural, entertainment, and environmental factors that influence the use of swearing. Furthermore, the study will clarify the various feelings that participants experience when they swear, such as anger, pain, frustration, and excitement, as well as underlying relationships like threat and regret.

Several researchers have looked into the use of swearing too. One such study is a research conducted by Loae Fakhri Jdetawy (2019), which investigates the origins, varieties, purposes, and motivations of swearwords by introducing various categorization schemes for "bad language" and "swearwords." According to the research, swearing is a way to express emotions, influence others positively or negatively, and relieve discomfort. It also emphasizes the significant influence of gender and age on swearing, using terms such as epithet, profanity, obscenity, cursing, insulting God, taboo, vulgarity, slang, insults, scatology, semantic variance, animal names, ancestral allusions, and propositional and non-propositional swearing.

The following study, conducted by Lafreniere, Moore, and Fisher (2022) investigates the effect of swearwords on feedback posted on the internet. According to the study, comments that

include swear words, like "damn," are more helpful and positively affect readers' sentiments towards the product. These words are provided as independent neutrals, expressing meaning about both the reviewer and the issue under consideration. The frequency and style of swearwords also influence these effects. Overall, swear words in reviews add value to readers and review sites because they effectively convey two meanings.

The most recent study by [Setyaningtias, Heriyanto, and Muhid \(2023\)](#) investigates UNAKI students' use of swear words in residence halls in Papua, Lampung, Kalimantan, and Medan. The study, which included twenty participants, classified swearing into five categories: funny, blasphemous, abusive, expletive, and obscene. These words are used in friendships to express physical feelings like intimacy, annoyance, and fury. The study defines three functions and five types of swearwords used by UNAKI students.

## RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

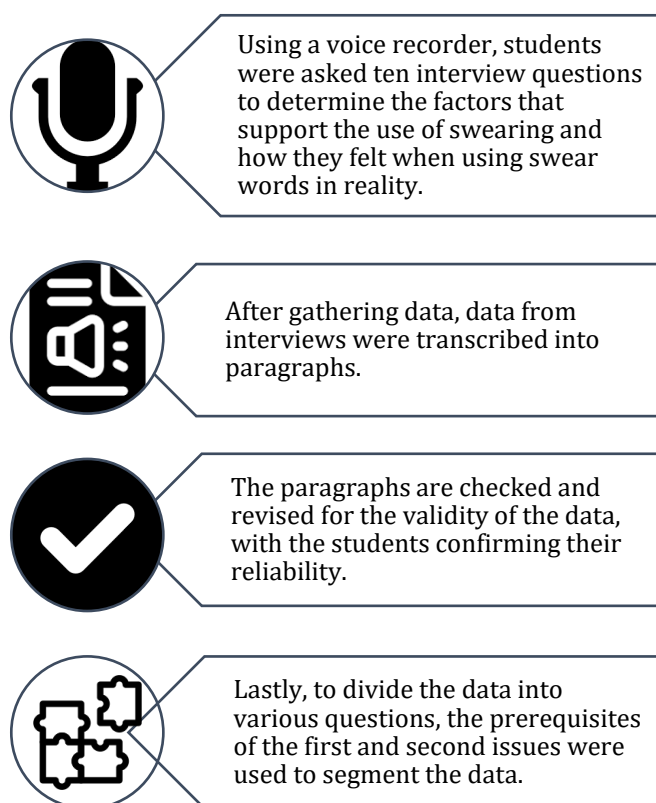
In this study, the researchers conducted qualitative research to identify the factors that encourage students to use swear words and to learn how students feel when they do. [Creswell \(2018\)](#) defines qualitative research as a method of investigation that employs a variety of methodological traditions to investigate social or human issues. According to [Adlini et al., \(2022\)](#), qualitative research uses inductive reasoning to gain a thorough understanding of reality, with researchers actively participating in the study's setting and emphasizing the facts at hand

The study additionally used a case study design, as recommended by [Yin \(2003\)](#), which focuses on an individual's daily life and investigates specific phenomena. This method involves setting up research questions, selecting

frameworks and tools, gathering and analyzing data, and compiling the final research document. A case study, as defined by [Assyakurrohim et al., \(2022\)](#), is a longitudinal investigation of a bounded system or a collection of cases involving a variety of rich information sources.

In collecting the data, six English literature class B students at UIN Sunan Gunung Djati Bandung were purposefully interviewed. [Sugiyono \(2019\)](#) and [\(Lenaini, 2021\)](#) highlight the various concerns associated with the purposive sampling approach. It is a non-random sampling strategy that involves identifying a unique identity that aligns with the research aims and is expected to answer the study case. This means that the researchers chose six students based on three factors: culture, entertainment, and environment, which influence their frequent use of swearwords, using predetermined sampling criteria.

In particular, the researchers employed a variety of methods to gather the information, such as:



The data collected is then analyzed using techniques, such as:

- a. *Data reduction.* The researchers investigated students' feelings when using swearing and determined what factors influenced their use of these expressions.
- b. *Presentation of data.* The researchers designed a model that illustrates the relationship between aspects that encourage swear word usage and students' feelings when using such terms.
- c. *Conclusions drawing.* The researcher then completes the collected data on students' swear word usage and a variety of feelings.

## FINDING AND DISCUSSION

### Findings

This study's findings are based on data collected and verified directly from students. It aims to gain an understanding of the variables that encourage students to use swear words, along with how students feel when they do.

**Table 1.** Interview data item “How does your social environment influence your tendency to use swearwords?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“So, my friends and other people in my social circle frequently—though not always—use swearing. I guess that’s why I use profanity—I simply go forward with it and follow it.”
2	DRD	“Personally, the bad environment that has no rules and it’s far away from my parents, makes me swearwords because that can influence me to do things like that.”
3	DEA	“My social environment, I think the social environment is something important in our life. So sometimes, it can coherently impact our lives. Of course, I think in my opinion, my social environment is something, that we say, has a big impact on our life. So, of course, with there is there are many kinds of social environments, and one thing or one of them is an environment with swearwords inside it. Of course, it has had a big effect on my life when we are communicating with each other, there are sometimes we use a swear word. That’s it.”

4	DT	“This is because our social environment influences us, especially when we say swearwords which may not be intentional.”
5	DMF	“My society in our home or my house is normal or usually, society if I use some bad word or am angry about things. When I was kid, if I do some bad word, it’s gonna be bad. When I was now, when I was an adult, it was normal I think.”
6	BAN	“Yeah, it’s a little effective but that doesn’t make me use swearwords. I don’t ya, don’t use swearwords.”

**Table 2.** Interview data item “How have your past experiences influenced the way you respond to certain situations by using swearwords?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“So maybe the reason that I normally live in a bad environment, makes me assume that swearing is normal.”
2	DRD	“Okay, I feel in my past there was a feeling when I faced the situation of frustration or anger emotion with swearwords. I feel so. So, in my past still than now how to different which good and bad, when I in past. So, when I am using swearwords, I feel so relieved when I get frustrated or anger situation. So, I feel relief when I am using words to get out what I feel.”
3	DEA	“My social environment, I think the social environment is something important in our life. So sometimes, it can coherently impact our lives. Of course, I think in my opinion, my social environment is something, that we say, has a big impact on our life. So, of course, with there is there are many kinds of social environments, and one thing or one of them is an environment with swearwords inside it. Of course, it has had a big effect on my life when we are communicating with each other, there are sometimes we use a swear word. That’s it.”
4	DT	“In the past, I was very safe with swearwords but in certain situations, I heard swearwords. Okay sorry, I mean, now if I say swearwords I feel regret, because of my friend when I was younger.”
5	DMF	“When I was a kid, I spent my all time at home, just playing games and that’s why I use swearwords in my games to communicate with other people.”
6	BAN	“In elementary school, I was once angry with my mother for using a not swear word but ya a disrespectful word for other people, and because of that I more carefully chose a word for other people.”

**Table 3.** Interview data item “What do you find to be the main triggers for using swearwords in your daily communication?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	<i>“I don't know, maybe using swearing is the simplest way to express your feelings, that's why I use them at the time, I think.”</i>
2	DRD	<i>“I think emotion, my emotions running high, can influence me to do or say a swear word.”</i>
3	DEA	<i>“When I get angry with someone who disturbs me and then when my friend kidding me a lot, that thing triggers me for doing that, for do swearwords.”</i>
4	DT	<i>“Under any circumstances, it can become swearwords, but usually, it triggers when angry and annoyed.”</i>
5	DMF	<i>“When I was playing games, when I was kid, I a lot of games and I often used some swearwords because I was not top of the tier of the game, and then I had a bad situation on my game that's why I use swearwords.”</i>
6	BAN	<i>“Daily communication is not really, but I always use it when I am losing in the game or talking to myself.”</i>

**Table 4.** Interview data item “How do you usually respond to negative emotions like anger or frustration without using swearwords?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	<i>“Usually, I watch some shows on YouTube or listen to some music, and that's how I realize what I'm feeling without using swear words, sometimes.”</i>
2	DRD	<i>“For me, I would like to do something like praying to God and that can make more to be calmer.”</i>
3	DEA	<i>“I say istighfar, astaghfirullah, because in my religion there is some word if you cannot say a good word, you are shut up.”</i>
4	DT	<i>“Just silent, not saying a word.”</i>
5	DMF	<i>“I just quit, or I just quit myself or some quit, I mean quit from the game. That's all a good thing for holding my emotions.”</i>
6	BAN	<i>“When I'm angry I always silent or take a breath normally because it's made me calmer.”</i>

**Table 5.** The interview data item “How do cultural or media influences in your

neighborhood play a role in your use of swearwords?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	<i>“So I frequently find swearing in my neighborhood. Therefore, even though I know it's wrong by nature, I still do it. Consequently, it is innately entering my brain.”</i>
2	DRD	<i>“The entertainment media that contains swearwords may reference something I watch that makes me upset and angry.”</i>
3	DEA	<i>“Okay, maybe I don't think so, but the media has a big effect that makes me use swearwords but the culture, there is no big effect for me to use swearwords because in media we can do anything. So that maybe the effect is I think so many bad effects in media. That's it.”</i>
4	DT	<i>“Very influence, especially in social matters I think.”</i>
5	DMF	<i>“In our culture or around my family or my friends, is normal, for no one to swear words or bad language and others. The most I use swearwords is because of the game, that's it.”</i>
6	BAN	<i>“It doesn't affect me because I don't often use swear words. It doesn't affect me that much.”</i>

**Table 6.** Interview data item “How do you feel after using swearwords in certain situations? Is there a feeling like regret or relief after swearing?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	<i>“Yes, I feel relief and a little regret, and sometimes I feel relief using a swear word. Maybe I used a swear word in a context that wasn't appropriate, and I feel like I regret saying that and doing that, but in some situations, I feel relief to say the swear words.”</i>
2	DRD	<i>“I think it's a normal situation, ya I feel so.”</i>
3	DEA	<i>“I feel sometimes I feel regret when I use a swear word in front of others, and then sometimes I feel relief too when I cannot find a way how to react or to out my emotions.”</i>
4	DT	<i>“There is a feeling of regret afterward, but sometimes also a feeling of relief.”</i>
5	DMF	<i>“My feeling if I use swearwords is I feel good because I just saying that, that I talk about just my emotions then I when to have some bad feelings for others because I don't care about other people, that's it.”</i>
6	BAN	<i>“Yeah, sometimes I regret swearing, when talking to an older one, when I talk to older people, I regret it.”</i>

**Table 7.** The interview data item “How did the reactions of people around you affect how you felt after you used the swearwords?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“Some people are reacting quite shocked like I said the swearwords. But some people like to go along and follow me that they are using swearwords too, so they kinda joking about it maybe.”
2	DRD	“It’s a different reaction, some people can say swear back to me, and some people just laugh, and some people just give quiet.”
3	DEA	“Of course, I think when we use a swear word, sometimes the situation or the mood of people around me can change, because maybe before we use a swear word, the situation is so, but after we use swear word maybe that is the responsive from others that look me or look me in the bad way or change their mood or situation.”
4	DT	“Some of my friends were shocked and quiet and the view of my friends was normal.”
5	DMF	“When I was young, I used swearwords or bad words with my friends, and the interactions were gonna be awkward. I think that’s gonna be awkward because I just talk to him with swearwords.”
6	BAN	“When I am with my friends, their reactions seem normal, when to new people, they seem a little surprised when I use swearwords.”

**Table 8.** Interview data item “Do you feel that using swearwords helps you to express emotions that are difficult to express in other words?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“Maybe yes, because swearing is the easiest to let out your emotions maybe, the bad feeling, maybe the easiest, the easiest to let out your emotions maybe.”
2	DRD	“Yes sir. I think so because if we say so if we say swearwords, that makes my emotion get out.”
3	DEA	“Of course, sometimes people cannot express the situation or their feelings with a word, but a simple way we cannot express our emotion with a word but with a swear word we can do it simply like express when we are angry or frustrated. So that way, I think that is a simple way. So I think when I use swearwords feel relief. So it is, yap, makes me relief.”
4	DT	“Doesn’t help but sometimes I feel relief.”

5	DMF	“I just when I use swearwords to all players in the game, it just gives me relief, because when other people are not good at play or some role play in the game, that’s why I angry and I use thing some swearwords to all people not playing game all role play that’s not good, I just talk swearwords and I just relief.”
6	BAN	“For me, it’s helpful when I’m alone and makes me a little bit easier or more calm.”

**Table 9.** Interview data item “How do you feel about yourself after using swearwords in the presence of others?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“Sometimes I feel quite ashamed or quite uncomfortable in some places and some time. But mostly I swear in my room, so I’m alone in my room, so it’s not quite uncomfortable, or comfortable to use the swearwords.”
2	DRD	“I think if in front of a stranger, of course, I would feel embarrassed but if in front of my friend, my best friend, I think of course not, because my friend sometimes says swearwords too, like me, and that makes me so.”
3	DEA	“Okay maybe, in some situations feel regret of course or shame. And then made me realize that wow I still have a childhood character in my character or my body or in my mind. Of course, I feel regret or shame, but sometimes I feel relief too, because it may be a way for you to communicate or to express your emotions to others, which other kidding you, or what we can say? Ya, annoyed, annoying me a lot. Maybe that is a way for me to express you are shut up or you are quiet. That’s it.”
4	DT	“As I said before, there is a feeling of regret afterward, but sometimes I feel relief.”
5	DMF	“After I used swearwords to others, and when I was speaking again, I felt shy and I felt uncomfortable with people when I didn’t talk to him, that’s it.”
6	BAN	“Not if I’m with my friend, but yes when I have conversations with older people.”

**Table 10.** Interview data item “Is there a long-term emotional impact of using swearwords in everyday interactions?”

No	Students	Responses
1	EHZ	“I, yes it is, of course. I have ever liked swearing to my friends and my friends get mad and get sad maybe because of me swearing, so ya there is a long-term impact on the swearwords to anybody.”

- 2 DRD *"I don't think so, because swearing is only a rude word that is said spontaneously and it can be restrained, even I can hold it if I have to speak normally and under various conditions, I think like that."*
- 3 DEA *"Yap, of course. Maybe when we get a bad emotional frustration, we can think which a good way to communicate it. Of course, it makes me a long-term when we use a swear word. And then in my life, I feel when I use a swear word, I become a person who has a bad character and does not care about the situation maybe someone listens to me when I use a swear word become change their mood or their point of view of me. Of course, that makes me have a long-term impact when I use a swear word."*
- 4 DT *"If I overly I will feel sorry afterwards."*
- 5 DMF *"Impact emotional of me is when I was playing a game and the other player was not good when he was playing, I just used swearwords to him like my daily activities are not, I mean like normal in good play games, that's it."*
- 6 BAN *"In real life, I am not affected by using swearwords but I feel the impact I always use swearwords in games when I'm playing badly or our teams playing badly, so in real life, I am not affected by that."*
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## Discussion

Based on the findings of interviews with six respondents, the factors and feelings related to the students' swearing can be determined:

### **Data Findings through interviews with six students as research respondents.**

According to the first interviewee, an EHZ student, he may have reacted negatively to situations in which he was forced to swear in public due to peer pressure and past negative experiences. Sometimes using profanity inappropriately can cause him to regret it, even if it is relieving. Furthermore, it may hurt friendships among hurt or angry friends. He claims that cultural and media influences encourage swearing, which is a common way for him to express his unpleasant feelings. However, the situation is not related to the social strata. It usually takes place in person and can leave long-term feeling lines. In most

cases, the use of swear words has a significant impact on his everyday experiences.

The second interviewee, a DRD student, claimed that the most common reasons for swearing were insecurity, a lack of parental control, and an unhealthy social environment. He believes that parents must keep an eye on their children because behavior develops naturally with limited prior control. While strong emotions may cause them to curse, alternative strategies such as prayer and anger management are also considered. Swearing is influenced by both entertainment and cultural contexts. There is no clear relationship between regret and relief. The feelings differ and their reactions range from apathy to silence.

However, the third interviewee, a DEA student, stated that negative emotions such as annoyance and discomfort can contribute to the use of swear words in public. In his opinion, swear words gain popularity in the media, but cultural norms limit their power. Depending on how others react, feelings after using swear words can range from relief to regret. Although swearing is a powerful way to express oneself, it can also shape how others perceive the speaker.

In response to the fourth interviewee, a DT student, their use of swearing is influenced by their previous experiences and social environment, which leads to feelings of dislike followed by trust in daily interactions. He believes that swearing is most commonly used to express anger and annoyance in response to silence, demonstrating emotional maturity. Cultural and media influences have a large impact on students' swearing habits. Swearing can be both harmful and relieving, depending on the situation and mood. This is a common and effective way to express powerful emotions, triggering reactions that vary from shock to calm.



The fifth interviewee, a DMF student, argued that social environments, particularly video games, have a significant influence on swearing behavior. According to him, swearing is more common and acceptable in video game environments than in family settings. Dissatisfaction with video games is the most common reason for swearing in everyday interactions, implying that the video game environment has a significant influence on this behavior. The game environment, particularly interactions with other players, may provoke negative emotions, leading people to defuse or discontinue playing altogether. While swearing in video games can be pleasant, it can also cause feelings of regret and discomfort. Other people's reactions to swearing can have a significant impact on emotions and communication, resulting in mood swings. To summarize, swearing in video games has the potential to be a powerful social expression tool, but it can also increase people's awareness of their social environment, leading to unhappiness and disappointment. Regular users' opinions and the long-term effects of profanity on social behavior are also being investigated.

Lastly, the sixth interviewee, a BAN student, commented that their decision to avoid using swear words in daily conversations is influenced by their early childhood experiences and specific warnings from their mothers. When faced with negative emotions, they demonstrate desirable emotional control and are more likely to swear on special occasions. According to him, swearing is rarely seen in the media, implying that it is intentionally forbidden in everyday interactions. When interacting with the elderly, it is frequently used to convey awareness of social environments. Furthermore, swearing in games or peer interactions is generally acceptable, but cautiousness should be maintained when

speaking to older people. Students may feel uncomfortable using swearing in social situations, particularly when interacting with elders. Though it does not affect real-life relationships, it is critical to maintain social environments and behave with respect and self-control in everyday interactions.

### ***The Factors that Lead Students to Use Swearwords***

#### ***Social Environment and Past Experiences.***

The interview revealed that more than half of students' swearing is influenced by their social environment and past experiences, which potentially cause a lack of acceptance and madness feelings. The finding is aligned with Maulidiatsani (2015) that the chance of swearing is influenced by one's social background, with individuals having varying tendencies and intensities. Scherer and Rhodes (1987) found that children are strongly influenced by their peers, particularly when it comes to swearing.

According to (Burkhart, 2011), adolescent changes—both neurobehavioral and psychosocial—have an impact on how well individual behaves and can cause them to want to act, think, or behave like their peers. Peer pressure frequently dominates cognitive proposes and occasionally takes over self-control. This phenomenon, known as peer pressure (Simpson et al., 2016), is more accessible when the influencer is a peer rather than a family member or older figure.

***Cultural or Media Influences.*** In response to the interview, students' swearing behavior—which is frequently used to express difficult emotions—is greatly influenced by cultural and media influences. This behavior does not, however, fully correspond to the social environments. On the contrary, swearing, which was once considered taboo, has become commonplace, with some people refusing to accept it and others making it a habit. Swearing

is now commonplace in cable television programming, appearing every five minutes in nine out of ten shows (Kaye and Sapolsky, 2009). It can also be found in song lyrics; the amount of "bleeped" out lyrics in rap music indicates that it contains more swear words than other genres (Jones, 1997). In line with earlier research, the study by Wright and Mokbel (2016) found that participants were more likely to come across swear words in song lyrics than in movies or music artists.

### ***The Feelings Associated with the Use of Swearwords.***

The interview revealed that while swearing can provide relief, it can also lead to regret and long-term emotional consequences, particularly in private settings. Their responses vary from apathy to silence, and their post-use feelings vary from relief to regret. Even though swearing is considered offensive language, several studies (see Stephens et al., 2023) have shown that it has several positive effects on various aspects of life. It can alleviate physical and social pain, boost persuasiveness and credibility, and aid in physical tasks requiring strength and power.

Swearwords may perform a variety of behaviors, including intended and syntactical structure. This suggests that swearing can serve a variety of purposes in different situations. Swearing is commonly used to express anger and discomfort while demonstrating control over emotions. Managing emotions is important for social behavior as it influences listener perspectives. Parents should monitor this behavior and consider alternative methods such as prayer and anger management.

## **CONCLUSION**

As previously stated, during the data collection process, students were asked ten interview questions about the factors that cause them to use swear words and how they feel when they do. Several detailed questions have been raised, including the influence of the social environment, past experiences, culture, and media, post-swearword feelings of regret or relief, reactions from others, and the long-term emotional impact of swearword use in everyday interactions. Hence, data from student interviews with EHZ, DRD, DEA, ELH, DRD, DT, DMF, and BAN can be concluded that

- a. The social environment has a significant impact on students' use of swear words, particularly in the context of interpersonal relationships and long-term social perceptions. Besides, the current study found that swearing behavior is greatly influenced by their video game environments.
- b. Negative emotions like anger and discomfort tend to be triggers. On the contrary, Students who avoid using swear words show that they are extremely aware of their social environment.
- c. Additionally, entertainment media and culture contribute to swearing behavior. It is prevalent in cable television programming, appearing every five minutes in nine out of ten shows. Rap music contains more swear words than other genres, with "bleeped" out lyrics.
- d. Swearing is a form of verbal abuse that can produce negative feelings and reactions. It can be an effective way to express feelings, but it can also influence how others perceive you. Parental supervision has a significant impact on children's behavior, as evidenced by the fact that swear words are less common in an orderly setting.

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