The Role of Gender in the Process Translation

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Abstract

This study was conducted in order to present an investigation of gender that take the role in translation studies. Since there will be several translations of the works by different translators that belong to different genders, in this study, the focus is to find out whether these translations by different translators that belong to different genders might affect the target language and might cause the readers to form a subjective point of view. Qualitative method was used in this study and the data gathered analyzing a recount text and determining some phrases as the base of analysis to be translated by four samples, two males and two females. As a result, after the analysis made, it has been concluded that gender in particular might affect the translation works. Although there were some differences, not any proof found that showed gender might affect translation works significantly.

Keywords: translation, translator, gender, variation of language

INTRODUCTION

Translation meaning is the how to translate the meaning from source language into target language. Hatim and Munday (2004) states that the translation relates to two sense of translation as the process, and the second to the product. The first sense focused on the role of the translator taking the original text or source text (ST) and turning it into a text in another language or as target text. The second sense centers on the concrete translation product produced by the translator. Translation relate to the both sense. How the translator can be called as the good translator is in his/her way of the process translation, his understanding of both source language and target language. It is line with Basnett (2005):

> What is generally understood as translation involves the rendering of a source language (SL) text into the target language (TL) so as to ensure that (1) the surface meaning of the two will be approximately similar

and (2) the structures of the SL will be preserved as closely as possible but not so closely that the TL structures will be seriously distorted.

It could be the same thought to Newmark in Pardo (2013) points out that in order to be able to translate a text, one has to understand and analyze it first. For this reason, translation theories should have a criteria to be followed by the translator. The intention of a text –the translator has to forget about his/her own views about a subject and translate it following the author's intention and never alter it. The intention of the translator –whether s/he is try to reproduce the emotiveness of the original, or whether s/he is trying to combine the cultural sense of the SL. The reader and the setting of the text: the translator has to think who the reader is –age, sex, class, education– in order to carry out the translation. And the quality of the writing and the authority of the text – the translator has to take into account if the text is well written and also if the author of the SL is a well-known authority.

The discussion about translation has made some interest of studies more about it. Most of them agree that translation is the way of translate the text from the source text into target text with the consideration about all of the aspects in both language. But the major requirement in order to gain the good translator is the equivalence of the target language. Meant that, if someone who wants to translate some text, she or he must consider what is her or his ideal translator must produce on the minds of readers as nearly as possible to the readers on its original text.

Furthermore, the way of translator whether male or female would has different way of translation. This condition becomes an issue in translation especially about the gender. The interest in gender and translation started with gender metaphorics in translation over the well-known debates of faithful versus unfaithful or loyal versus free. Apart from the issue of gender metaphors in translation, visibility or invisibility of gender on the part of the translator is another discussion that has been evolving in Translation Studies with the development of post-colonial translation theories. It has also become a part of the overall discussions in women studies and feminist literary theory. The core of an investigation in Translation Studies on the effect of gender in the act of translation is the purpose of revealing the degree of visibility of gender manipulation in the process of any translational act. This study began with the curiosity, whether male and female translators have a different way of information transfer from the source language to the target language. In other words, because there are some particular phrases and words generally preferred by females and some generally preferred by males, it has been studied if these words that might vary in language use based on the person's gender take part in the translation works or not. Meant that, the focused of this study was whether gender take a role in translation works or not.

RESEARCH QUESTION

Does gender differ in translation source language into the target language?

LITERATURE REVIEW

Gender's Perspective in Translation

Gender has played its role in translation studies. Although rather rarely studied, it becomes a new filed to be studied more. Its related to some aspect such as language itself, the differences between male and female languages. It also related to the varieties of language that there are some varieties both male and female language.

Gender and Language

Why male and female has different way in translate from source language into target language could be considered because the bases on the variation of language by sex. What are the differences in language uses of males and females symbol of? Personally and socially, Language comprises an important part of the human entity. Language and gender are connected to each other through the individuals' participation in the daily social relationships.

As Stockwell in Moghaddas (2013) mentions today the concept of "genderlect" points to the various grammatical and vocabulary choices related to males and females. As an example, women are devoid of sure intonation in their daily conversations. This reveals that they are less sure of their speeches, talk too much politely, use euphemism in their talks, swear less and apply indirect words and speeches. A careful scrutiny of the previous studies on the males and females' dialogues represents interesting perspectives about the whys and wherefores of the males and females' language uses and differences. In the dialogues including the two genders, women more prefer to apply tag phrases than men and even in appropriate time.

Coates in Moghaddas (2013) stases men usually use less of them and often tend to pause in their answers to show their priority, prestige, authority and influence on the other part of the conversation. As mentioned before, men interrupt the other part more than women since they assume themselves as a superior and more powerful sex.

If we are talking about translation as a product of human language, we would also discussed about both male and female language. The different ways of male and female language can be shown in terms of varieties of language.

Varieties of Language

Different sex leads to variations in the use of language. Operationally, both males and female tend to use language differently. Men and women have their own of variations of saying things. One of the most recent findings indicates that both of them have different brain. Due to the different centre of perception men see things differently from women do. Saragih (2016) points illuminate the different variation in the use of language

First, in their text women tend to use more adjectives whereas men tend to use more nouns and verbs. The use of adjective is attributed to the nature of women who tend to appreciate feelings, qualities or attributes, which are lexicogrammatically coded by

epithets and classifiers. Differently men tend to observe facts, to do things or to make changes, which are lexicogrammatically realized by verbs or nouns.

Second, women perceive specificities easily where as men see generality. On seeing a bag with certain color on the table men identified it saying *the bag is red* whereas women said *the bag is reddish.* Similarly a man said *s/he is suffering from headache* whereas women indentified the case as *s/he is suffering from vertigo or she is suffering from migrant.*

Thirdly, women tend to have nurture whereas men tend to depend on nature. This is realized in various ways; one of which is expression of *if you are failed in the exam you spend more money for the school fee.*

Moreover, women tend follow rules and they are proud of their womanhood by abiding rules. On the contrary men tend challenge rule, make new ones and are proud of their manhood by breaking old and making new rules. Consequently, men tend to have more grammatical mistakes that women do.

Furthermore, women tend to be attentive to family matters and emotional aspects whereas men tend to explore natures and expect to change the world. In effect, in the use of language women are most probably involved in narrative text whereas men tend to construct expository text by which they try to change the world.

By their natures men tend to show (physical) power and authority than women do. Thus, in giving a speech men want their audience to be attentive to them. All these habits are linguistically realized in men addressing more often interlocutors in using vocatives such as ladies and gentlemen, son, boy.

These are some varieties in language occurred in both male and female.

Gender and Translation

Holmes in Moghaddas (2013) a review of the men and women's language and the study of the different aspects of their lives reveal the subordination of the females group and the domination of the males group. As a result, women did their best efforts to be heard by the society in the past decades and show their abilities to men. Gender and language issues interweaved to each other during the several past decades; meanwhile translation studies have been developed more and more. Since translation is a product of human language, it can have the same characteristics as human language. Therefore, every translation may be a reflection of its translator's may be a reflection of its translator's language features.

According to Flotow (1997) in Moghaddas (2013) gender points to the sociocultural structure of the sexes. During 1960s and 1970s, feminist intellectuals studied and discussed the sociological differences between men and women and their cultural and political incapability. In line with Simon in Moghaddas defines gender as an element of identity and experience which forms through social consciousness like the other cultural identities.

Sherry Simon in Hsing (2011) clearly emphasizes the importance of gender in translation: Feminist interventions into translation have served to highlight the fact that cultural transmission is undertaken from *partial* perspectives (and not universal), from constantly evolving cultural *positions*. The movement of ideas and texts is influenced by the subject positions of those who undertake the work of translation. Gender is central to the creation and the definition of these positions.

Until feminism became established as a field in the 20th century, little attention had been given to the role gender plays in translation. As post-colonialism and feminism have involved themselves in the new interdisciplinary area of Translation Studies, the understanding of 'fidelity' has been reframed. Simon points out, 'For feminist translation, fidelity is to be directed toward neither the author nor the reader, but toward the writing project – a project in which both writer and translator participate'. As Susan Bassnett observes Translation Studies having many alliances, she comments, 'the common threads that link the many diverse ways in which translation has been studied over the past two decades are an emphasis on diversity'; they reject the old terminology of translation as 'faithlessness' and 'betrayal' of an original, but foreground the manipulative powers of the translator and a view of translation as bridge-building across the space between the source and target cultures.

Translation has been used in the interpretation and commenting on the women's activities for a long time. Nowadays, translation in cultural studies is like a metaphor expressing "the increasing internationalization of cultural production" and also showing the destiny of those bewildering between the two worlds and two languages. Women try to translate themselves into the men's language and immigrants also struggle to translate their past experiences into the present time. The marginalized groups use translation as a tool to include themselves in dominant groups' culture and language. The reason is that they feel they are not in their homeland and see themselves imprisoned in the myriad of power struggles which causes women and many of the immigrants. Translation and the translator both being considered marginalized as some believed in privileging the original text than the translated one and translation was only an equivalent for the original text and not an original one in its own (Hatim and Munday, 2004). Translation was an important tool for women in entering into the world of literature and writing. In fact, translation helps females to present and show themselves to the others through their translations and writings. For a long time, Women' activities only limited to translation and they were just allowed to enter into this limit secondary realm of writing. They didn't have the choice to act beyond the dominant border of writing and were not deserved for writing and authorship.

Translation and feminism were both in a category of '*secondariness*' and were used as a tool for understanding the language differences (Simon in Mogahddas 2013). Feminist translation theory attempts to determine and criticize the concepts of women inferiority and translation both socially and literally. As a result, the process of feminized translation needs to be known and the power structures preserving such relationship should be eradicated.

Males and females made the different lexical and grammatical choices characteristically. For instance, women in their talks use frequent certain color tem, frequent certain evaluative adjectives, not sure intonation, tag phrases and super-polite expressions such as euphemism, less swearing and more indirect words. In other words, because there are some particular phrases and words generally preferred by females and some generally preferred by males. It has been discussed before if these words that might vary in language used based on the person's gender take part in the translation works or not.

METHOD

This study use qualitative research. Ary (2010:39) state qualitative research focused on understanding social phenomena and providing rich verbal descriptions of setting, situations and participants. The data were gathered from a recount text that determined some phrases as the basis of analysis constructed to be translated by two males and two females as sample. After that it was analyzed between male and female translation from English into Indonesian to know the differences of translation produced by both male and female. The source of data will use the recount text that will be translated by the samples. The data itself is some phrases that we underlined in order to know the expression which be translated by male and female.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Gender actually has played the role in translation studies. The differences between male and female language, varieties language influence the way of both male and female. But it is not dominantly or significantly occurred. At this data has been analyzed, there are some aspects focused in order to know the differences between male and female translation production. First, at some phrases could be said that between male and female's translation influenced by their gender. But, on the other hand, some phrases focused, gender affect in translation. As one can learn, the differences between women's and men's language has been written but nothing in particular has been proved. There are only pieces of the language where the women's and men's use of the language different. But these pieces were very important for this work where I tried to prove that the translation done by a man and translation done by a woman differs according to particular patterns of language. It can be seen at the text translated following.

The differences of both male and female based on the varieties of language occurred in their spoken language but when it was conducted in translation, there are no significantly differences between them in the process of translation. Meant that, the translation studies related to the gender, still need more studies to explore about it.

Text:

In the *middle of the bright day*, *I planned to have lunch in a new restaurant. I drove my car along the West road at a* *reasonable speed*.

About fifty meters before the crossroads, a pedestrian who was walking on the pavement <u>suddenly ran</u> across the road in front of my car. I was <u>so surprised</u> that I braked <u>as hard as I could.</u> I was <u>really panic</u> but I had to swerve to avoid the pedestrian. I crashed into a car which was parked by the side of the road. Fortunately, the pedestrian was not injured, but I had <u>bad cut</u> on my face because I hit the windscreen. I had forgotten to put on my seat belt. An ambulance took me to the hospital where I had to have five stitches and took a rest for some hours.

There was <u>a lot of damage</u> to my car; the windscreen was broken and the bodywork was <u>badly dented</u>

Translation (1)	Translation (2)
Di siang hari yang cerah, saya berencana makan siang di sebuah restauran baru. Saya mengendarai mobil disekitar jalan barat dengan kecepatan biasa. *Kira-kira 50 m sebelum persimpangan, seorang pejalan kaki yang berjalan diatas trotoar tiba-tiba berlari menyebrangi jalan didepan mobil saya. Saya terkejut saya langsung mengerem. Saya begitu panik saya langsung membelokkan untuk menghindari pejalan kaki tersebut. Saya menghancurkan sebuah mobil yang diparkir diseberang jalan. Untungnya, pejalan kaki tersebut tidak terluka, tapi wajah saya terluka karena saya terbentur kaca depan mobil. Saya lupa untuk pasang sabuk. Sebuah ambulan membawa saya ke rumah sakit dimana saya harus mendapatkan 5 jahitan dan istirahat selama beberapa jam.* *Banyak kerusakan yang terjadi pada mobil saya, kaca mobil depan pecah dan bagian utama mobil penyok. (Female ; 25)*	*Di tengah hari yang cerah, aku berencana makan siang di restoran yang baru dibuka. Aku mengendarai mobilku di sepanjang jalan West dengan kecepatan yang sedang-sedang saja.* *Sekitar lima puluh meter sebelum persimpangan, seorang pejalan kaki yang berjalan di trotoar mendadak menyeberangi jalan di depan mobilku. Aku sangat terkejut sehingga menginjak rem sekuat-kuatnya. Aku panik sekali waktu itu tapi aku membanting setir untuk menghindari si pejalan kaki itu. Aku menabrak mobil yang diparkir di sisi jalan. Untungnya, pejalan kaki itu tidak terluka, tapi wajahku tergores karena mengahantam kaca depan mobil. Aku lupa memasang sabuk pengaman. Mobil ambulan pun membawaku ke rumah sakit. Wajahku mendapat lima jahitan dan aku harus beristirahat selama beberapa jam.* *Mobilku rusak parah; kaca depannya hancur dan bodinya penyok parah. (Male, 24)*
Translation (3)	Translation (4)
Di tengah hari yang cerah, saya berencana untuk makan siang di sebuah restoran baru. Saya mengendarai mobil saya di sepanjang jalan sebelah Barat pada kecepatan yang wajar. *Sekitar lima puluh meter sebelum persimpangan, pejalan kaki yang sedang berjalan di trotoar tiba-tiba berlari melintasi jalan di depan mobil saya. Saya sangat terkejut lalu saya menginjak rem sekeras mungkin. Saya benar-benar panik tapi saya harus berbelok*	*Di tengah hari yang cerah, saya berencana untuk makan siang di sebuah restoran baru buka. Saya mengendarai mobil saya sepanjang jalan West dengan kecepatan yang wajar.* *Sekitar lima puluh meter sebelum persimpangan, seorang pejalan kaki yang sedang berjalan di trotoar tiba-tiba berlari melintasi jalan di depan mobil saya. Saya sangat terkejut sehingga saya menginjak rem*

untuk menghindari pejalan kaki tersebut. Saya menabrak mobil yang diparkir di pinggir jalan. Untungnya, pejalan kaki itu tidak terluka, tapi saya mengalami cidera buruk di wajah saya karena saya terpental ke kaca depan. Saya lupa untuk mengenakan sabuk pengaman. Sebuah ambulans membawa saya ke rumah sakit di mana saya harus mendapatkan lima jahitan dan istirahat selama beberapa jam. Ada banyak kerusakan mobil saya; kaca depan rusak dan seluruh badan mobil saya mengalami penyok yang sangat parah. (female, 34)	*sekeras mungkin. Aku benar-benar panik tapi aku harus berbelok untuk menghindari pejalan kaki. Aku menabrak mobil yang diparkir di pinggir jalan. Untungnya, pejalan kaki tidak terluka, tapi saya mendapati luka gores di wajah saya karena saya terbentur kaca depan. Saya lupa untuk mengenakan sabuk pengaman. Mobil ambulans membawa saya ke rumah sakit di mana saya mendapati lima jahitan dan beristirahat selama beberapa jam.* *Ada banyak kerusakan mobil saya; kaca depan rusak dan bodi mobil yang penyok. (male, 23)*

Table 1. The results of this study was below:

No	Phrases	Sample 1 (female, 25)	Sample 2 (male,	Sample 3 (female, 34)	Sample 4 (male, 23)
1.	middle of the bright day	Siang hari yang cerah	Tengah hari yang cerah	Tengah hari yang cerah	Tengah hari yang cerah
2.	reasonable speed	Kecepatan biasa	Kecepatan yang sedang-sedang saja	Kecepatan yang wajar	Kecepatan yang wajar
3.	suddenly ran	Tiba-tiba berlari	Mendadak menyeberangi	Tiba-tiba berlari	Tiba-tiba berlari
4.	so surprised	Terkejut	Sangat terkejut	Sangat terkejut	Sangat terkejut
5.	as hard as I could.	Langsung	Sekuat-kuatnya	Sekeras mungkin	Sekeras mungkin
6.	really panic	Begitu panic	Panic sekali	Benar-benar panic	Benar-benar panic
7.	bad cut	Terluka	Tergores	Cidera buruk	Luka gores
8.	a lot of damage	Banyak kerusakan	Rusak parah	Banyak kerusakan	Banyak kerusakan
9.	badly dented	penyok	Penyok parah	Penyok yang sangat parah	Penyok

If we compared four of them, it can be seen that the way of male or female in terms of gender was not significantly used. there has not any significant proof found that showed gender might affect translation works significantly although there were some differences.

CONCLUSION

Translation meaning is the how to translate the meaning from source language into target language. Hatim and Munday (2004) states that the translation relates to two sense of translation as the process, and the second to the product. The first sense focused on the role of the translator taking the original text or source text (ST) and turning it into a text in another language or as target text. The second sense centers on the concrete translation product produced by the translator. The equivalence of source

language into target language and also the consideration of all aspect of linguistics in both language must be considered.

Language and gender are connected to each other through the individuals' participation in the daily social relationships. As Stockwell in Moghaddas (2013) mentions today the concept of "genderlect" points to the various grammatical and vocabulary choices related to males and females. As an example, women are devoid of sure intonation in their daily conversations. This reveals that they are less sure of their speeches, talk too much politely, use euphemism in their talks, swear less and apply indirect words and speeches.

Translation was an important tool for women in entering into the world of literature and writing. In fact, translation helps females to present and show themselves to the others through their translations and writings. Feminist translation theory attempts to determine and criticize the concepts of women inferiority and translation both socially and literally. As a result, the process of feminized translation needs to be known and the power structures preserving such relationship should be eradicated.

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As one can learn, the differences between women's and men's language has been written but nothing in particular has been proved. There are only pieces of the language where the women's and men's use of the language differs. But these pieces were very important for this work where I tried to prove that the translation done by a man and translation done by a woman differs according to particular patterns of language. The differences almost occurred in oral language, but in translation it was not occurred significantly.

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