

# English Cursing Analysis of Millennial Generation in Social Media Investigate

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## ABSTRACT

Cursing was an uncommon sentence or paraphrase that someone produced when they felt angry at something or the expression of a wish that misfortune evil, doom, etc. Cursing had been existed for many years ago but the people who accepted cursing from someone would feel very angry and sad. Nowadays cursing had been like a common language in our daily conversations. Cursing in any country would be different, for example cursing in English and Indonesia would be different. We said cursing by translate from one language to a different language. Social media was a medium for people by interactive computer-mediated technologies that facilitated the creation and sharing of information, ideas, career interest, and other forms of expression by virtual communities and the internet. Giving the expression of cursing in social media had been common for the millennial generation. They expressed their misfortune act by cursing on social media. Or sometimes they expressed the cursing in the wrong communication. It could be they do not understand what did they have said in cursing. This research would analyze the cursing expressions in social media. The objective of this research was for giving the information that cursing was not a polite expression for the students who learned to speak English as a Foreign Language. The research would take some text from social media like Facebook, game online, WhatsApp, and Instagram. The instruments of this research were observation, documentation, and interview. The methodology of this research was qualitative.

**Keywords:** *Cursing, Social Media, Millennial Generation*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

The conversations in this era are very different from the era before. The teenagers in this era do not only use slang language for their daily conversation. Sometimes they update the status on their social media to show their feeling today. Then their friend will reply to their status on their social media by using the cursing word. But they do not feel angry or bad to their friend. It is because the cursing word today has been common in our daily conversations.

It is very different from the era before. When someone used a cursing word, the listener will feel bad for the speaker.

This change has existed since the American Pie movie existed in 2004. The people in this era do not ashamed to use the cursing word for showing their feeling. Actually, not only because of the American Pie movie, the cursing word emerged because of the development of technology nowadays. So people can see the development of social

interaction today. They can see how most people interact and communicate.

The discipline in this current research is we can understand the development of language nowadays and the context in the communication. Every result of the development language, besides, decreasing, even though in every kind of language, like the shape and meaning, in lexical or grammatical, we could assume it as the changing in language. The object of linguistics is not only the utterance but the language. Cursing or swearing in English based on the original meaning is to take an oath, make a solemn declaration, statement, affirmation, promise, or undertaking (Keith and Kate)

Now cursing is very common and it becomes such behavior or habit, it has become the norm for a wide range of people. Unfortunately, it is impossible to avoid hearing cursing words being used in daily conversations, especially in social media because cursing words are a part of our language. Especially young people will frequently use cursing words with their friends. According to Jays in Fagersten's view, swear words as well as the most frequent word that occurs in the spontaneous speech of universal

frequent population occurs]. Ben in Hoo's to has the same opinion that it seems almost impossible not to those words in students' conversations [2].

Nowadays we often find cursing words in social media. Because most young people in this era live with their internet. Then they often use their social media as their communication media with their friends. The term social media consist of two-part, they are social and media. Media is a tool or a means for communication [3, 4]. Then social is as a real social that everyone does the action that gives the contribution to society. This statement means that real media or any kind of software is social or they are the result of the social [5, 6].

From the explanation above, we can infer that social media is a communication tool that is used by the users in the social process. According to Nasrullah [7], if we want to see the explanation of the social media, we have to see the developing relationship between the users and the media ware. In analogical, the working of social media won't be different from the system working on a computer. They are recognition, communication, and co-operation [7]. This research will discuss the cursing that people produce especially on social media.

**2. METHOD**

This research was naturally descriptive qualitative because the data were not concerned with the number of the sample used in the research, but on the sample that could provide a lot of answers to the research questions. The data of this research were words, phrases, and sentences that contain cursing words which were found in some social media during the researcher do the observation in some social media. The technique in collecting data, the researcher used the document that took from social media. The data were collected from some samples and some social media like Facebook, Instagram, Discord, Reddit, YouTube, and Twitter.

The data was collected from April to June 2019. The data was collected by using two techniques. They were observation and documentation which consist of how often, where, who, and when do they use the cursing words. The subject of this research was all the users of social media. But the researcher was limited to just took some of them. It was about 20 people young people who came from overseas. The researchers chose 20 people because they often used cursing words than others.

Before analyzing the data, the documentation of the cursing had to be selected, related to the cursing word that they used. Then, the data were analyzed based on the research question of this research. Here were the detailed steps of analyzing data: 1) Classifying the cursing word according to the social media, and put them in the table; 2) The data would further analyze and explain each type; 3) The data from the documentation were counted the total number of each type then counting the frequency and made the percentage of each term. 4) Describing the reason and the intention of using cursing words.

**3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

**3.1. Cursing word**

There are 55 (fifty-five) cursing words that are used by young people in their conversations on social media. The researcher took the data from some social media, like Twitter, Reddit, Instagram, Facebook, Discord, and YouTube. The table below shows the cursing words that the researcher found in social media.

**Table 1.** Cursing Words Used by young people in social media

No	Cursing Word	Social Media
1	We Just Got Fucked	You Tube
2	Shit	Twitter
3	Dick	Discord
4	MotherFvcker	Instagram
5	Goddammit	Facebook
6	Fuck off	Facebook/Discord
7	Dumb Bitch	Facebook
8	God Damn Face	Twitter
9	Smug-ass dick head	Twitter
10	Arseholes	Twitter
11	Dickhead	YouTube
12	Hell down	Discord
13	Fucking Excellent	Discord
14	Fuck me	You Tube
15	Horny Spikes	Discord
16	WTF (what the fuck)	Instagram/Discord
17	Damn Youngsters	Discord
18	Fucking Sad	Instagram
19	Fucking Soul	Facebook
20	Wanker	Twitter
21	Fckin Dying	You Tube
22	Well Shit	Twitter
23	Fuck already	Twitter
24	Fucked up beyond	You tube
25	Fucking Haw	Tinder
26	Fuck you	Facebook
27	Dick Joke	Facebook
28	Not my proudest wank	You Tube
29	Twink	You Tube
30	Fuck no	Discord
31	Fucking annoying	Discord
32	Fucking Trending	Twitter
33	Fucking Hell	Discord/YouTube
34	Fucking Thing	Twitter
35	Fucked Up	Discord
36	Shit Drunk	Discord
37	Fucking People	Twitter
38	Full of fuck	Twitter
39	Damm Bitch	Facebook
40	The fucking red wedding	Instagram
41	Fucking real	Instagram

No	Cursing Word	Social Media
42	Horny Finger	Discord
43	Shit Down	Instagram
44	Curse Shit	Discord
45	That sounds shit	Discord
46	The little shits	Discord
47	Fuck up	Twitter
48	What the actual fuck	Discord
49	Stepdads	Facebook
50	I've fucked	Facebook
51	Damn it, man	Instagram
52	Fucking Mind	Twitter
53	Fucking cute	Instagram
54	Fucking shirt form	Instagram
55	Fuckin butt	Reddit

### 3.2. Type of Cursing Word that Used by Young People in The Social Media

Based on the table above, the cursing words are categorized based on Wardaugh's statement. However, not all kinds of cursing words in Wardaugh could be found in this research. Through classifying the data, there are only five kinds of cursing words could be found. The following is a further explanation of each type [8].

#### 3.2.1. Sex Term

This term refers to sexual activities or things related to sexual intercourse between men and women. Then, in this term the cursing words that are used by the young people in social media are fucking soul, fuck off, fuckin', mother fuckah, fucking, fucking sad, the fuck, fucked, fuckers, fuck up, fuck me, WTF, fucking excellent, horny spikes, fucking real, fucking red wedding, fuk'd wit da wrong, wank, wanker. Wank is like masturbate but it's often said in English. The cursing that has mentioned above the often cursing words that saying when young people discuss or communicate on social media. The following is an example of a conversation between young people on social media.

1. A: I turn 29 in August  
B: I was in March. Fuck, I am old

#### 3.2.2. Excretion

Excretion comes from the word excrete which means to separate and eliminate the solid waste matter from our body through the anus. In this term, the cursing word is used by young people on social media. It is "Shit, Shit down, curse shit, shit drunk, well shit, that sound shit, the little shit", Here are some examples of using the cursing word "shit"

1. We're all deep into S08 hate, but can we take a moment to remember what a stupendously awful shitshow this entire affair was.
2. "Used to". Well...Shit

#### 3.2.3. Bodily Function

This term is related to the human's body or human's genitals which means the sex organs of the human being. In this term the cursing word that mentions the bodily function, mostly like a dick, dickhead, butt, asshole, ass. This an example of their conversations on social media.

1. ur honestly a dick
2. Smug-ass dickhead

#### 3.2.4. Mother in law

This term is used to describe a person who does not have a permanent partner for sexual intercourse or explain that person like to change a sex partner. The words that are related to this term are bitch, dumb bitch, mother fucker, stepmother, stepfather. The sentences below some examples of the cursing word that related to this term.

1. Hello motherfvckr!!
2. Happy fathers' day to all my porno stepdads I've fucked!

#### 3.2.5. Others

The word that the researcher thinks is related to the cursing word is damn. This word can be interrelated with the other word, like goddammit, Dammit, dammm, etc. The sentences below are examples of the cursing word "Damn"

1. Goddammit, Ranko. Told you not to wander off in your mighty whitey.
2. She's wearing my face!! She's wearing my God Damn face

### 3.3. Total Number of Each Type

After we classifying the cursing word based on the type, now the researcher counts the cursing word based on the type and the social media.

#### 3.3.1. Based on the type

**Table 2.** The Total Number of Cursing words based on the type

Sex Term	Excretion	Bodily Function	Mother in Law	Others
33	7	6	4	8

From the table above, it can be explained based on the number of documentation samples that the researcher took, the total number of cursing words that the most often the young people use is based on the type of sex term. It's around 33 (Thirty-Three) saying.

### 3.3.2. Based on The Social Media

**Table 3.** The Total Number Cursing Words Based On the Social Media

Twitter	Reddit	Ig	Fb	Discord	YouTube
13	2	9	9	17	8

From the table above, we can infer that the cursing word that the researchers have chosen randomly, the young people often use discord as their social media.

### 3.4. Intention and Reason the Young People Using Cursing Words

If we see the explanation above about the cursing words that young people use on some social media nowadays. It proves Jay's statement that individual speakers in one society might use cursing words is determined by his or her psychological development within a cultural environment [9].

Before analyzing the intention and reason for using cursing words, the context of cursing needs to analyze. Jay points out that cursing is influenced by pragmatic(contextual) variables such as the conversational topic, the speaker-listener relationship, including gender and social physical setting of the communication [10]. The documentation was contributed to getting more a better sense to evaluate cursing as a function of context such as who they cursing with, and on what condition they are cursing.

Besides the documentation is designed to know more about the contextual such as when, where who and why. Then based on the condition why they said some cursing words is for increasing their intercourse with their friends.

Jay suggests that the primary use of cursing is for emotional connotation, which occurs in the form of epithets or an insult directed toward others. Besides emotional, he further states that there is a positive social outcome that can be achieved by using taboo words in-jokes or humor, social commentary, sex talk, storytelling [11]. Besides, as the supporting theory where does not find in Jay's argument, Coate's statement in Thelwall [12] states that cursing is displaying closeness in friendship. So they used it not to insult, to mock, and to offend their friends but they use the cursing word just to make him and his friend closer or to indicate their friendship.

## 4. CONCLUSION

It can be concluded that the young people in this era use any kind of cursing words in their social media as their communication or conversations in their social media. And cursing word has been common in this era. Cursing word is not taboo words again. So we can add cursing words as one of our languages in English Speaking. It is not bad at all but when we understand it, hopefully, it can reduce misunderstanding about cursing. Big hopefully from the researcher, that the children can analyze before they use the cursing words.

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